

THE NATIONAL

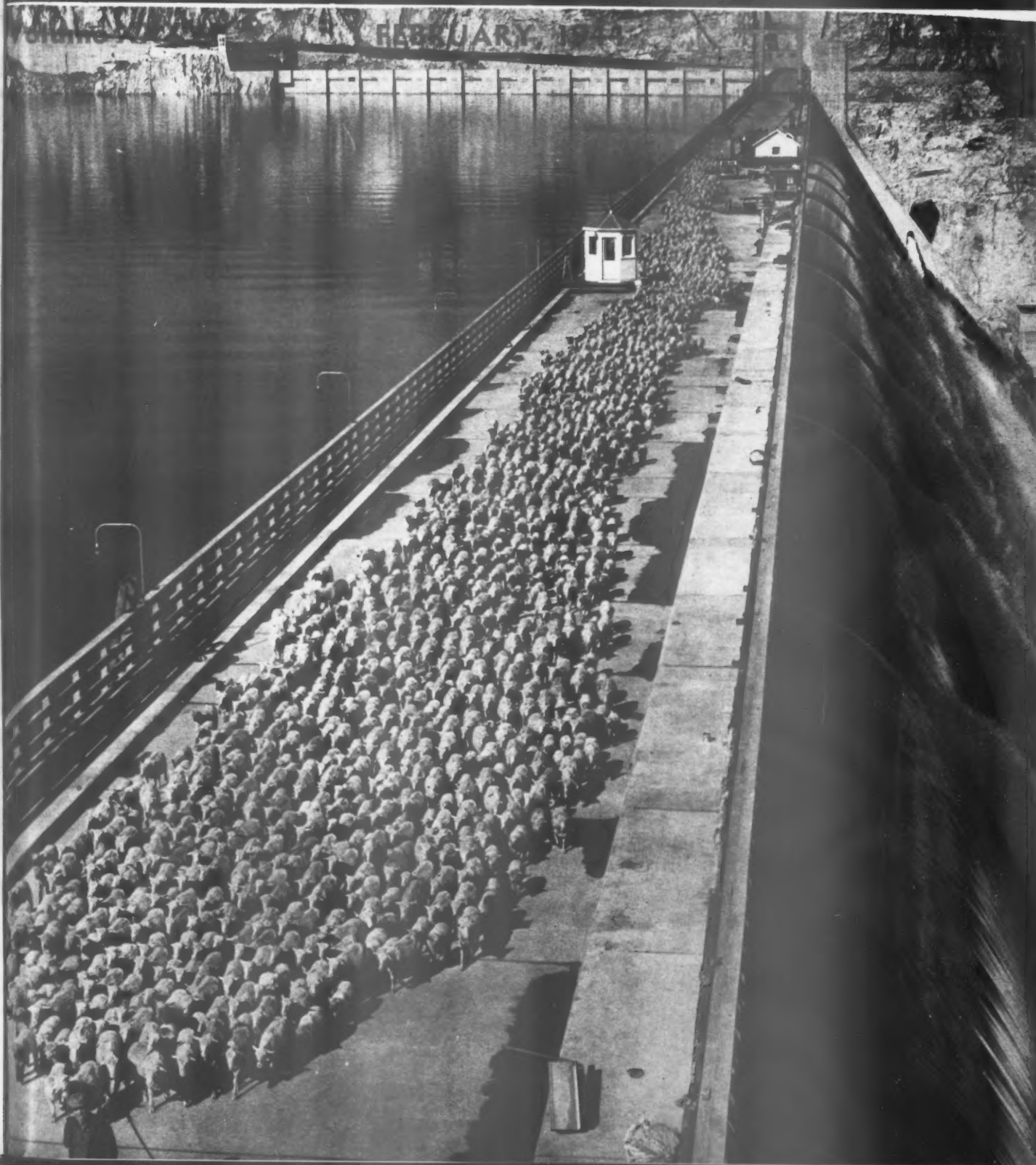
Wool Grower

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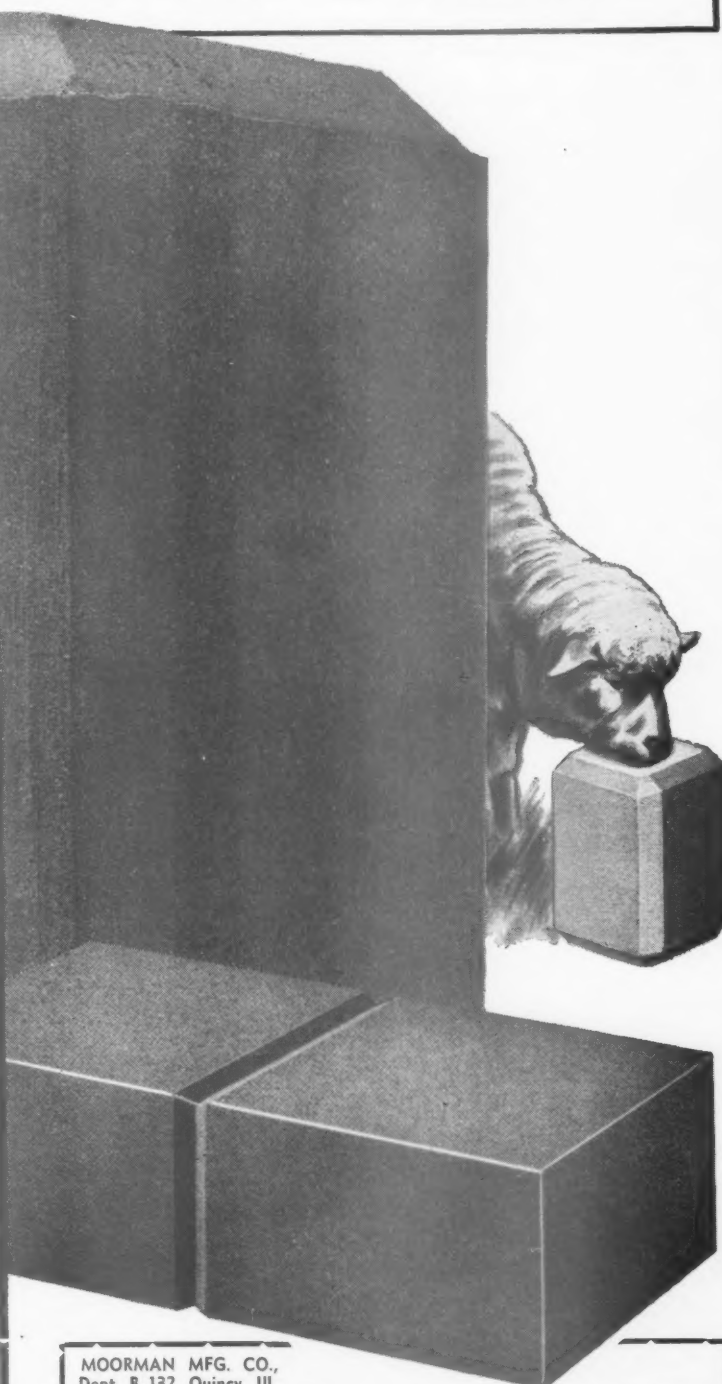
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The Cutting Chute

The Cover

For the interesting picture of sheep crossing the Coulee Dam on May 11, 1943, we are indebted to the Washington Motorist. The sheep, owned by Hodgen and McDonald, Adrian, Washington, were photographed by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

Ammunition

A recent telegram from Congressman Frank Barrett states that the War Production Board has authorized Defense Supplies to ship one hundred thousand rounds of .30-.30's to each of nine western states. War Production Board reports more center fire ammunition will be made available and estimates over two million rounds for February, and an additional supply also before lambing season. In his report from W.P.B., it stated that dealers can now secure .30.06's by placing orders.

Army Textile Purchases in 1943

The Army Quartermaster Depot, according to an item in the Commercial Bulletin of January 22, purchased approximately \$1,000,000,000 worth of textiles and related products during the calendar year 1943. This was slightly under the 1942 purchases, which were figured at approximately \$1,630,000,000. The yardage in wool goods bought last year totaled 75,000,000 yards as compared with about 185,500,000 yards bought the preceding year. The wool knit cloth purchases last year totaled 2,750,000 yards against 4,200,000 in 1942. In 1943 about 14,300,000 blankets were bought compared with almost 25,000,000 in 1942. About 676,500,000 yards of cotton cloth were purchased for the Quartermaster Department in 1943. The previous year purchases of cotton amounted to more than a billion yards.

Farm Wages

According to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics' report the general level of farm wage rates on January 1 was at the highest point for that date in twenty years under record. At 275 per cent of the 1910-14 average, the January 1 farm wage rate index was

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MORNING MILK

down 5 points from October 1 but 51 points higher than a year ago. Farm wage rates were sharply higher than a year earlier in every section of the nation. For the year 1943 the index of farm wage rates averaged higher than those of any other year under record. The Bureau of Agricultural Economics' report also stated that net income of farm operators from current operations is at a record level, and thus far in the war has advanced faster than farm wage rates.

Ceilings on Oats, Barley and Grain Sorghums

The Office of Price Administration on February 5 established maximum prices of oats, barley and grain sorghums at the levels of the prices set by the temporary freeze order which was in effect December 6, 1943, to February 4, 1944. The temporary "freeze" on oats and barley was based on highest prices in major markets during the five-day period from November 29 to December 3, 1943. This was above parity prices for those grains.

The temporary sorghum grain (milo, kafir, durra, feterita, and sorgo) ceilings were set at the following basic points: \$2.36 a hundredweight at Kansas City; \$2.40 a hundredweight at Texas, and \$2.74 at Los Angeles and San Francisco. These prices are in excess of parity and it is stated that a revision is proceeding as rapidly as possible.

Wheat Shortage

Impending shortages of wheat may necessitate curtailment of the use of wheat for livestock feeding purposes, according to a recent statement by the Office of War Food Administration. They point out that Russian and military demands for wheat will increase. It is understood that 40 million bushels of wheat is to be received from Canada.

Army to Release Burlap

Some fifty thousand yards of burlap obtained by the Army Engineers for camouflage purposes, which still remains in an uncut state, may soon be released for bag manufacturing purposes, according to a statement recently made by the National Committee for Farm Production Supplies.

MR. RANCHER: TRAPPER

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509 Pacific National Life Building
Salt Lake City 1, Utah
J. M. Jones
Irene Young } Editors

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES—Payment of dues in the National Wool Growers Association includes a year's subscription to the National Wool Grower. Dues and subscriptions are received along with state association dues by the secretaries shown for the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. To non-members in the United States and Canada \$1.50 per year; foreign \$2.00 per year. Entered as Second Class Matter, January, 1913, at the Post Office at Salt Lake City, Utah, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized August 23, 1918.

Hearings on Disposal of Wool Stockpile

As Reported by President Winder and
Legislative Chairman J. B. Wilson

LATEST STOCKPILE FLASH

The Defense Supplies Corporation is offering 30 million pounds of the U.S.-owned stockpile wools at auction on February 17, 1944.

While the Wool Advisory Committee of the D.S.C., consisting of G. N. Winder for the growers, H. E. Munro for the dealers, H. T. Lindsay for the brokers, and Mose Pendleton for the manufacturers, opposed this sale, it could not be called off as it had been extensively advertised. However, Jesse Jones, head of the Defense Supplies Corporation, according to a wire from J. B. Wilson on February 15, has assured the Congressional committee working on this matter, that no further sales of stockpile wools will be announced until after he has given a thorough study to the proposals of growers and Congressmen. Assurance has also been given by Mr. Jones that before any definite action is taken, the Congressional group will be consulted again.

AN investigation into the reasons contributing to the accumulation in this country of large surpluses of foreign wools and an unsalable surplus of domestic wool, will begin on Monday, February 14, before the House Agricultural Committee, as a result of final hearings by a special committee of Representatives from fifteen wool-growing states, which was concluded today under the chairmanship of Representative Frank A. Barrett (R) of Wyoming.

Mr. Barrett was authorized by the members of the committee to present a formal protest against the proposed sale of the government stockpile of 330,000,000 pounds of Australasian wool, scheduled to begin February 17, to Jesse Jones of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and W. L. Clayton, Assistant Secretary of Commerce and representing the Defense Supplies Corporation. The resolution, which was delivered to these officials on February 12 bearing the signatures of the seventeen Representatives present, requests that no sale of these wools be held, under any circumstances, until an agreement has been reached by the Defense Supplies Corporation, Department of Agriculture and the War Production Board as to a future permanent policy respecting further imports of foreign wools and the sale under best advantages of the existing surplus of domestic wool and the forthcoming 1944 domestic wool clip.

Members of the committee were unanimously agreed that the first step toward the solution of the perplexing problem of wool surpluses in this country would be to place them under the control of one agency, preferably the Commodity Credit Corporation, instead of maintaining them under three government agencies, as at present.

W. L. Clayton of the Defense Supplies Corporation was questioned exhaustively by members of the committee regarding the policy under which this government had accumulated the foreign stockpile. He explained that it was actuated by two motives: First, fear that avenues of com-

munication with Australia, the world's largest producer of wool, would be closed; and second, because the British government, hard pressed by the costs of the war, needed American dollars. Near the conclusion of the hearing, he stated definitely that the proposed sale of foreign wools set for February 17 would be held. He added that this sale would have no effect whatever on domestic wool, because of its pegged price of \$1.18 as against the British issue price of \$1.05. The competition, he added, would be entirely against continued imports of like grades of wool.

Mr. Barrett, as chairman of the committee, summed up the general discussion with the statement that the pegged price of domestic wool, which represented costs of production to domestic growers, acts as an umbrella under which the world wool-growing industry, with cheaper costs of production and established government prices, is able to ship wool into this country. He said:

The stockpile of foreign wools is being sold at a profit by the Defense Supplies Corporation under this umbrella. All of the evidence given here proves that wool textile consumption in this country is running at record heights and that practically the entire civilian production of wool textile mills is based on foreign wools. With all good will toward our allies, it is not equitable that the wool price policy of the British Government, acting as a seller critically in need of a market, should control domestic wool prices.

In 1940 the British established issue prices on all wools grown within its dominions to move that wool into the last remaining great wool-consuming market. In 1941 the United States Government established a ceiling price on domestic wool to foster domestic wool production as a strategic raw material necessary to the successful conduct of the war. The British issue price, upsetting all past traditions of price differentials, is now below the domestic wool price, shutting our own production out of its only market—the American market. We must have a definite policy correcting this situation if the American wool industry is to survive. Such a policy cannot be established on the basis of giving away American markets for domestic wools to producers of foreign wools.

Representatives Granger of Utah, Phillips of California, and Hill of Colorado, members of the House Committee on Agriculture, declared that the situation respecting domestic wool as developed at the hearings, demanded consideration by the House Committee on Agriculture. Members of the special committee and witnesses were requested to bring before this committee all of the data and the information which had been developed.

Grover Hill, Acting Undersecretary of Agriculture, told the committee that the present rate of wool imports into this country gravely threatened the very existence of the domestic wool industry. Imports in 1943 were 600,000,000 grease pounds, which represents an amount equal to our average annual consumption of wool over a ten-year peacetime period.

"These imports of 600,000,000 pounds of foreign wools," he said, "are not government wools. They represent purchases by private commercial interests who are buying this foreign wool because it is cheaper than the pegged price of domestic wool, which represents what is regarded as a necessary return to the American wool grower. While there is a high wartime rate of consumption today, it is very probable that within another year we will be caught with a surplus of

wools in this country which it will take us years to get rid of."

Present at the special hearing, were: Hon. O. C. Fisher of Texas, Hon. Antonio Fernandez of New Mexico, Hon. Wm. S. Hill of Colorado, Hon. J. Edgar Chenoweth of Colorado, Hon. Robert F. Rockwell of Colorado, Hon. Walter K. Granger of Utah, Hon. Hal Holmes of Washington, Hon. Clair Engle of California, Hon. James F. O'Connor of Montana, Hon. Mike Mansfield of Montana, Hon. Compton I. White of Idaho, Hon. Henry Dworshak of Idaho, Hon. Wm. Lemke of North Dakota, Hon. A. L. Miller of Nebraska, Hon. Walt

Horan of Washington, Hon. John Phillips of California, and Hon. Frank A. Barrett of Wyoming; Wm. L. Clayton, Assistant Secretary of Commerce, and George Hill of the Defense Supplies Corporation, Grover Hill, Undersecretary of Agriculture, Lawrence Meyers in charge of General Crops Division of the Commodity Credit Corporation, and Wm. T. Darden of the Wool Division of the Commodity Credit Corporation, and George Anderson, Boston wool dealer, G. N. Winder, president, and J. B. Wilson, legislative chairman of the National Wool Growers Association.

What About Lamb?

Of the two major products of the sheep industry, history shows that lamb prices have greater stability than those of wool. Prices of lamb show less fluctuation and the changes are less pronounced. However, both wool and lamb are very sensitive to general business conditions.

The United States Tariff Commission shows that wool generally commands relatively higher prices than lamb when general business conditions are good, but that when business in general is slow or depressed relatively higher prices are paid for lamb.

Estimates from the Department of Agriculture show that for an average over the United States, lamb accounted for over 59 per cent of the receipts in the sheep industry for the period 1916-1942.

At present under government controls there is some stability in the wool market with the contemplated Commodity Credit Corporation wool purchase program for the 1944 clip, but there is not, nor has there been, any stability in the lamb market.

A comparison of the average prices for sheep and lamb for January 15, 1944, with the same period one year ago shows that lamb sold for 4 per cent less this year than on January 15, 1943; sheep were 4.5 per cent lower. The cost-of-production picture is the reverse, and to a greater degree. Agricultural reports show alfalfa hay 39 per cent higher, cottonseed meal 25 per cent higher, all feed costs up 23 per cent, farm wages 23 per cent higher on January 15, 1944 than on January 15, 1943. This per cent takes into account only the dollar increase in wages, not the lower efficiency obtained.

The price of wool is reported 1.8 per cent higher for January 15, 1944, than for a year ago. Even on the average this slight increase would do little to offset increased costs.

There is no price stability for the

product which over the past 26 years has constituted over 59 per cent of the total receipts in the sheep industry as a whole. The meat end of the sheep business demands the attention of every grower and much effort and thought should be directed to a sound meat management program. Individual cost and income data should be made available to wool grower associations by every individual who is interested in the welfare of the sheep business.

J. M. J.

OREGON LEADS AGAIN

For many years the Oregon Wool Growers Association has been the first of the thirteen organizations affiliated with the National Wool Growers Association to meet its full quota. This year it again heads the list. Although knowing that its sheep population has been cut almost in two, it has sent in its check for \$2200, which exceeds its usual quota by quite a bit.

The Idaho Wool Growers Association, another association always to be counted on for 100 per cent support, has made its first payment (\$1000) on its 1944 quota.

Quotas for 1944 have not yet been figured, as the estimate of sheep numbers as of January 1, this year, on which each state's share of the National Association budget of \$45,000 is based, has not yet been issued.

Higher Grazing Fees

Fees for grazing on the national forests for the current year for both cattle and sheep will be 13 per cent greater than in 1943, with the average fee for cattle set at 25.66 cents per head per month and that for sheep, 6.25 cents per head per month.

Forest grazing fees are adjusted each year on the basis of the relationship of average market prices received during the preceding twelve months to the base

rate fixed in 1931. In figuring the cattle fee for this year an average 1943 price of \$11.70 per hundredweight was used, and for sheep, a \$12.60 average market price. The 1944 cattle fee is 177 per cent of the base rate of 14.5 cents and the sheep fee, 138 per cent of the base rate of 4.5 cents.

Department of Agriculture Reorganized

Marvin Jones, War Food Administrator, announced on January 21 that the Department of Agriculture was being reorganized and that "Food Production Administration" would be changed to the "Office of Production"; the "Food Distribution Administration" would be changed to "Office of Distribution." A new "Office of Price" was set up under the "War Food Administration" for the purpose of supervising the functions of the administration relating to the approval of maximum prices to be fixed on agricultural commodities and also relating to price support prices.

The Agricultural Adjustment Agency, Farm Security Administration, and Soil Conservation Service, were set up as independent agencies reporting directly to Mr. Jones.

The duty of the Office of Distribution is to be responsible for procurement, stock-piling, storage, and distribution of food and, according to the interpretation of the definition of food, wool is included in this category. However, the Commodity Credit Corporation will be responsible for the procurement and distribution of products now administered until May 1, 1944. The order also stated that the C.C.C. will be responsible for distribution of food requirements through loan programs. According to the release, it appears that wool would be placed directly under the Office of Distribution after May 1. The Office of Production will be responsible for the distribution of food, allocated feed, and other production facilities.

A Letter to the President

In a letter to President Winder, Mr. Russell Wilkins analyzes the first sale of Defense Supplies Corporation wools of 5,400,000 pounds on January 18. A breakdown of the wool sold and some of Mr. Wilkins' thoughts on the subject follow:

SCOURED WOOL

Weight	3,600,367 #	Ceiling Sale	\$3,577,215.77
			3,159,582.55
		Difference	\$ 417,633.22 (11.67%)
Average Ceiling Price per Pound			\$.9935
Average Selling Price per Pound			\$.8775
		Difference	\$.1160 per pound

GREASE WOOL

Weight	1,900,267 #	Ceiling Sale	\$1,035,156.80
			926,043.64
		Difference	\$ 109,113.16 (10.54%)
Average Ceiling Price per pound			\$.5447
Average Selling Price per pound			\$.4873
		Difference	\$.0574 per pound

"I understand this wool was seized on the high seas when we entered the war, destined to unfriendly hands, and therefore we had no pecuniary interest in the transaction; consequently it didn't matter particularly, from a dollars-and-cents viewpoint, what it brought, but it did in consumption channels of our domestic market. In dollars and cents the wool sold for over one-half million dollars less than ceiling prices at which the Commodity Credit Corporation is endeavoring to outlet domestic wool

"I imagine Commodity Credit could, without any question, move the wools which are now in its hands at a sacrifice in price of 5.74 cents per grease pound of wool or a little over 10 per cent off of its purchase price. I also feel certain it could move all of its scoured and washed wools at 11.6 cents per pound less than its purchase price, or approximately 12 per cent off ceiling prices

"Unless we actually prohibit import licenses to the extent of 330,000,000 pounds of wool, I cannot see how this

wool will be absorbed in the market at foreign ceiling prices. It does not necessarily follow, if this wool is disposed of, that other imports will not be made which, in effect, will result in the further overloading of the domestic market, which is already the greatest miscalculation of the actual supply re-

quirement problem for a strategic material in this war.

"It is all very well for the War Production Board or Defense Supplies Corporation to tell the American wool grower what is good for him and how absorbing the wool now is the lesser of two evils—absorbing it now when our consumption is large or absorbing it later when our consumption is normal; but I cannot forget or forgive the promises which surround the original entrance of these stockpile wools into the United States.

"Now that we admit we have a stockpile so great that it demands immediate liquidation, why don't we lend-lease this wool or dispose of it in some other manner than absorbing it here and demoralizing the market for our own domestic product? What I would like to do is revert back to the original promises and demand that these promises be kept, then there would be no evil at all.

"Suppose the sale of the 5,400,000 pounds of wool considered in the fore part of this letter didn't result in a direct loss to the Treasury of the United States since it was wool being held in

trust, having come into our hands through seizure rather than purchase. The dollars and cents loss is not the point. It is the effect it will have on our domestic market and prices for domestic wool. If such procedure should undermine prices and make it necessary for the Commodity Credit Corporation to sell its 1943 wools at less than they cost, a direct loss will be sustained by the C.C.C. You might say the volume was so small as not to materially affect the structure of our market but it was not smaller than the total production of some of our western states and further, if 5,000,000 pounds isn't enough to cause any ill effects in our market or to be a matter of concern, suppose that Great Britain decides to take a loss on the half billion-pound stockpile it holds in this country and would dump these wools into our market for whatever they will bring. This is not a far-fetched possibility and I am certain that if something isn't done to jar some sense into the minds of those who are attempting to run our government's wool program, that just some such thing will happen. Certainly with the surplus of wool that is piling up in Australia and other colonial possessions of Great Britain, she will have little need of her stockpile in the United States when this war is over, and we all know that those in charge of Britain's wool policies are smart enough to make any needed sacrifices to bring about stability outside of their own particular markets rather than within them"

More About the Stockpile Hearings

CONGRESSMAN Barrett made the following proposal for a general plan in the handling of the domestic and foreign wool stockpile: "That the Commodity Credit Corporation purchase the stockpile of foreign wools from the Defense Supplies Corporation. These wools were bought at a price of 15 per cent, more or less, under the existing British Government issue price for like wools, therefore the Defense Supplies Corporation could sell these wools to the Commodity Credit Corporation at around 85 cents per pound, on a scoured basis, with a reasonable profit over the purchase price. In 1944, the Commodity Credit Corporation, through purchase, will own approximately 600,000,000 pounds of domestic wool, comprising the balance of the 1943 clip

now held and the anticipated 450,000,000 pounds of 1944 clip. A mean price representing the average cost of the domestic and foreign clip would be \$1.07 per pound on a scoured basis. I recommend that these wools, foreign and domestic, be sold as one lot, under arrangements which will guarantee the consumption of the domestic wool clip on an equal basis with the foreign stockpile."

W. L. Clayton stated that if Jesse Jones, director of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, would not object, he would be willing to recommend the sale, on the condition that the Commodity Credit Corporation bought the stockpile of foreign wools at the now existing British issue price. He added that the market for wool at this time was in an especially advantageous condition, and that the Defense Supplies Corporation would be able to obtain the British issue price from dealers and manufacturers, plus a premium for the advantages offered by spot wool deliveries. Tentative plans, he said, had been made to sell from twenty to twenty-five million pounds of these wools at auction within the next few weeks, but he assured the committee that if these sales gave any indications of disrupting the market for wools, they would be stopped immediately.

Wool growers found a strong champion in Mr. Grover Hill, Acting Undersecretary of Agriculture, who declared that the wool growers had cooperated to the fullest degree in supporting the government's proposal at the outbreak of the war, to import wools against a possible shortage. He declared that the sale of the stockpile, without endeavoring to provide markets for domestic wool, would create a dangerous situation for wool growers and wool manufacturers. It was the duty of the government, he added, to protect the interest of the producers of an essential commodity such as wool.

President Winder of the National Association, told the committee that the proposed sale of the stockpile is but a detail in the fundamental condition which must be corrected if wool growers are to continue in business.

He stated:

Australasian wool is being delivered in this country at a price from ten to fifteen cents per pound, on a scoured basis, lower than it is possible for American wool growers to produce wool. This price is an arbitrary price established by the British Government who purchases the wool from

its dominion growers. It upsets entirely the traditions of the free peacetime competitive economy in which Australasian wools were always sold here at prices higher than those paid for comparative grades of domestic wool. The price of these Australasian wools, therefore, does not represent normal economies. It represents government price control established to insure the widest market for a government-owned commodity, which is in direct competition with an essential domestic commodity.

American wool growers, generally, are unable to produce wool at present ceiling prices, which were fixed immediately after Pearl Harbor. They cannot continue in business unless some arrangement is made whereby British prices are brought into line with American costs of production. This is particularly true because the British Government has guaranteed the purchase of its dominion wools for one year after the war is ended, and negotiations are well under way to continue this agreement until three years after the war.

ARMOUR AGAIN CONTRIBUTES TO WOOL FUND

W. A. Netsch brought to the annual meeting of the American Wool Council, Denver, January 23, Armour and Company's check for \$7,264.43 as its payment to the wool promotion fund for 1943. It represents one-sixth of a cent per pelt pulled.

Our thanks go to Armour and Company for this assistance in wool promotion.

Farm Labor Deferment

It has come to the attention of this office that it is very important and urgent that sheepmen apply immediately for deferment of those men whom they hope to keep on the job. As far as we are able to determine, there has as yet been no directive issued which changes the present situation, but from rumors and threats that are coming in, it would be well to keep in close contact with local draft boards.

Farmers and farm workers now deferred from military service on occupational grounds whose agricultural activities do not conform to national aims may be called upon in the near future to sharply increase their production goals or face cancellation of their Selective Service deferments, Commander Patrick H. Winston, assistant executive of the Selective Service said on January

7. It will be recalled that in November, 1942, the Selective Service set up a basis on which farm activities were translated into terms of war units and an individual 16 war-unit objective was set as a guide for agricultural classification. In some instances, however, deferments have been made where registrants were responsible for as little as eight war units. Commander Winston in his recent statement indicated that in the forthcoming agricultural season 16 war units may cease to be merely a guide and may become the minimum but by no means the maximum of individual activity. At the present time one million seven hundred thousand registrants are deferred as being engaged in agriculture. Of this number approximately one million are non-fathers including approximately 400 thousand youths under 22 years of age.

O. P. A. Assures Growers

The following are excerpts from a letter to Honorable Edwin C. Johnson from Chester Bowles, Administrator of the Office of Price Administration under date of December 11, 1943:

This will acknowledge your letter of November 30, 1943, with an enclosure from Mr. Moroni A. Smith of Salt Lake City, Utah, in which he discussed the problems relating to the lamb and sheep business.

* * *

It has been our intention in establishing meat ceilings to provide consumers with the adequate quantities of meat at fair and reasonable prices.

At the same time to afford producers an opportunity to get their cost of production plus a reasonable margin of profit . . .

We assure you that we are giving very careful attention to the livestock industry. We shall try to administer our price control and rationing programs in a manner which will not adversely affect our food production programs.

We shall work in close harmony with the War Food Administration to stimulate the production of meat animals in quantities large enough to supply the meat requirements of our armed forces and our civilian population.

YOUR BOY IN THE SERVICE

If you have a son in the service, keep him interested in the sheep business by sending him the National Wool Grower. For \$1.50 we will send him this paper for one year.

The National Wool Grower



The President's Message

By G. N. Winder

It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as president of this association for the past year. In all our endeavors, I have had complete cooperation of the officers and honorary officers. I want to thank the legislative committee, composed of the vice presidents, under the able chairmanship of Byron Wilson, for their willingness to aid in carrying out our program, and also the delegation of Texas sheepmen who on several occasions traveled to Washington at their own expense.

As most of you know, Mr. Fred Marshall, who for 23 years so ably, and with devotion to the industry, served as secretary of the association, tendered his resignation because of ill health. It was with regret that the Executive Committee accepted it. I wish to extend to Fred Marshall on behalf of the wool growers, our appreciation for his unswerving and faithful service in our behalf, and wish him success in the future.

It is fortunate that we had as assistant to Mr. Marshall, a young man who grew up in the livestock business and who had, under the able tutelage of Mr. Marshall, acquired a good understanding of the background of this association. Casey Jones, now acting secretary, has spent most of the last several months in Washington learning his way around and getting acquainted with things as they are there. Casey has one distinct advantage, and that is that he is comparatively new and therefore has a fresh outlook on things and is not hampered by any prejudices, or bound by any set opinions.

We are also particularly fortunate in having the services of Miss Irene Young as editor of the magazine and to carry on the functions of the office. Miss Young has spent the better part of her life in the service of this association, and a great deal of the success of its operation is due to her efforts.

We have gone through one of the most difficult years in the recent history of the sheep business. In addition to very adverse weather conditions causing low production in many localities, we were beset with a myriad of rules and regulations and directives which had so confused most of us that

we have not known which way to turn.

But the important thing is we did come through and must now look to the future—not only the immediate future, but also to the time when we will return to something like normal. We should be making our plans looking to the time when the conversion will take place from a wartime to a peacetime economy.



President G. N. Winder

We have gathered here to discuss the many problems confronting the industry. And to some extent we should take into account the problems confronting allied industries. I have never considered it the prerogative of the president of any association to dictate in any way the policies of that association. This is your association, and I am sure that through your deliberations and discussions will be established a platform and policies which it will be the duty of the officers to carry out.

In all our deliberations, let us keep in mind that for the 78 years of its life, this organization has had an enviable record of fair dealing and honesty of purpose. But let us also face the fact that this is a day of organized groups all working for the interests they represent. Never before in our 78 years of existence, has it been so important that we all stand together and have the cooperation of all.

Perhaps our associations need some revamping, especially from a financial standpoint, but it is my hope that in the

very near future, we can build up our associations and get complete and harmonious cooperation. In order for this to come about, some of us may have to forget our personal prejudices and our pet peeves. However, I have enough faith in the sheepmen of this country to believe that we can build our associations to a point where they will truly represent a great industry and that it will be done without relying upon some other agency to do it for us.

I do feel it my duty to present for your consideration some of the vital issues confronting us today.

Today we witness the paradox of a military and civilian demand for wool products of every character that has established a new high record in both production and consumption, while the domestic wool clip accumulates in unused inventories without a market. Practically the entire civilian demand, and a large part of the military requirements, are being met with foreign wools.

This brings up the question of the disposal of our 1944 domestic wool clip. Do you want to continue with a plan similar to the 1943 CCC program at substantially the same prices, or do you want to consider an optional plan whereby the government will take over any wool that cannot be sold on the open market, but that takeover to be at prices substantially less than those proposed under the first plan? Or do you want to consider a non-recourse loan at a figure based upon 85 percent of parity which, I believe, would be around 28 cents average farm price? Or do you want to keep the government out of it and attempt to underwrite the domestic wool clip ourselves in the face of foreign wool competition at a very much lower price?

I must explain my idea regarding one criticism made of the CCC purchase program. It has been charged that this purchase was in fact a subsidy payment to us. To my mind, this cannot be so considered, first, because it was an outright purchase of a strategic commodity by the government, and second, if the government would make some slight adjustments in its import policies, there is no reason in the world

why our domestic wool should not move into consumption either for military or civilian uses at prices which would let the Commodity Credit out without the loss of a nickel on the transaction.

Another charge commonly made is that it prohibits a grower from selling his wool. Instead of doing that, it seems to me that it is an endeavor to create a market and supply a buyer to whom the grower can sell his wool at a price which will in a measure maintain him in business.

Just recently a new and threatening complication has developed. Without consultation with any representative of wool growers, and in direct contradiction to repeated pledges made by responsible government authorities, the War Production Board announced that it proposed to sell the strategic reserve of foreign wools, amounting to some 330 million grease pounds. The announcement was vague and inconclusive, and was accompanied by the usual promises that plans for the disposition of the wools would adequately protect (1) the interests of the American wool growers, and (2) the interests of commercial dealers and mills importing foreign wools for resale or for their own use.

It is certain that these wools must be disposed of sometime, some way. But it is more important that our own domestic wool be disposed of and consumed so it will not accumulate and deteriorate in warehouses. It is hoped that the agency having the responsibility of the stockpile of wool will not go off half-cocked and do anything that will further disrupt our domestic wool market. A sound program seems to be the first order of business.

Wool must be considered a strategic commodity, or there would have been no need for a stockpile to begin with. Therefore it seems that an industry which produces such a strategic commodity should be given a fair chance to maintain itself instead of being pampered by every conceivable means.

Looking into the future of the wool industry is not very hopeful. After this war is over, not only will we be confronted with foreign competition on raw wool; we will have to meet a greatly expanded and improved synthetic fiber industry. In addition, as mills in all the European countries are put back into operation, we will be confronted with wool fabrics made in these mills at costs so low that we cannot hope to

compete with them and maintain our standards. It is high time that we made our plans to meet those conditions.

Another important question is the lamb and mutton situation. I anticipate that every phase of the question will be covered in the discussion to follow. I hope that a practical approach can be worked out. I must say that this last year our recommendations for correcting some of the inequities have not received much consideration from the government agencies charged with handling the meat question.

On several occasions we have made what we considered some very sound recommendations, beginning with the Meat Management Plan outlined by the Livestock and Meat Council. I still feel that had the War Meat Board as set up been given entire authority to manage the meat situation, we would not have experienced the conditions that existed last fall. Some sound program is required if the livestock producer is going to receive prices which will allow him to maintain production. A subsidy program does not work out for the benefit of the producer, and yet adds millions of dollars to our already stupendous national debt. We have witnessed the working of the rollback of meat prices and packer subsidy. This plan was designed to roll back the price of meat about two cents a pound retail, and the packers were to be paid a subsidy so that theoretically they could maintain the live price to the producer.

The plan has not accomplished either end. The price of lamb to the consumer has declined about 75 cents per hundredweight, while the live price has declined about \$2 per hundredweight. There has been a great deal of talk about the necessity of a general subsidy program to maintain production and reduce the cost of living. About all this program would accomplish would be to increase our national debt, while the reduction in cost of living would be so slight that its effect would not be noticed. It has been said that if the subsidy plan was abandoned, prices would skyrocket. Whether the subsidies are continued or not, the price controls as set up would still be operative, and such a statement is an admission that the price control structure is a failure.

It cannot truthfully be said that agriculture has laid down on its job. Nor has it ever threatened to strike. Instead

of that, by working longer and harder, it has produced more food each successive year for the last several years. Agriculture does not want a subsidy, all it wants is a fair price to cover its cost of production and a fair return on its property and for its efforts; and those prices can be paid now more easily than by mortgaging our future to pay a subsidy.

There is one question that I feel quite deeply about, and that is the state of our nation. It seems to me that we have digressed a long way from our American ideals during the last twelve years. Today we are being governed by executive directives and bureaucratic orders and regulations rather than by legal processes provided by our Constitution. It is time we all looked into the future to see whether we are on the track we want to follow, or whether we had better switch while there is still time. To my mind, there is only one solution, and that is a general governmental house cleaning.

New Nevada Secretary

Jerry Sheehan has resigned as secretary of the Nevada Wool Growers Association on account of ill health, and Mrs. Martha R. Bruce has been appointed to succeed him. The headquarters office of the association has been changed from Reno to Room 404 Henderson Bank Building, Elko, Nevada.

Merino Meeting

The annual meeting of the American and Delaine Merino Record Association was held at Columbus, Ohio, on January 13. The plans adopted for 1944 were about the same as in past years. The recording fee on older sheep was raised from 50 cents to one dollar per head. The recording fee on lambs remains at 35 cents. A Merino picnic and a state Merino show will be held in Ohio next summer, the time and place to be announced later.

Officers elected for 1944 were: President, H. J. Ziegler, Clyde, Ohio; Vice President, A. R. Jewell, Centerburg, Ohio; Secretary, Gowdy Williamson, Xenia, Ohio; Executive Board, George W. Deeds, Pataskala, Ohio; W. L. Fisk, Newark, Ohio; Walter Staley, Marysville, Ohio; Kinsey Helser, Lafayette, Ohio; Ralph Gooding, Delaware, Ohio; J. L. Bryant, Galena, Ohio; and Ralph Richards, Nova, Ohio.

The 79th Annual Convention

Denver, Colorado, January 24-26, 1944

WHEN 500 sheepmen from the western states assembled, at the 79th annual convention of the National Wool Growers Association in Denver, Colorado, January 24, 25, and 26, this year, their most immediate concern was with the proposal to sell the government stockpile of wool.

The Stockpile Question

Since 1940, when the strategic need for establishing reserve supplies of wool in this country under the control of Great Britain and the United States was first conceded, this big accumulation of wool has been dangling like Damocles' noted sword over the domestic market. Now the problem was immediately before the growers as the War Production Board had announced on December 16, 1943, that plans for the disposal of the stockpile were being considered, and on January 8, George H. Hill, Jr., by wire, asked the National Wool Growers Association to name its representative on an Advisory Committee of four members to confer with the Defense Supplies Corporation on the selling of the stockpile wools.

Close upon this message came announcement of the sale of six million pounds of wool which the United States Government had acquired by seizure. While there may be some room for argument that this wool was technically not a part of the stockpile, it was none the less foreign wool owned by the United States Government that was sold. It looked, indeed, as if the schedule for the sale of the stockpile wools had not only been decided upon, but was already being carried out.

Forgotten apparently were the promises that none of the stockpile wools would be sold until after the war except in cases of extreme emergencies. Forgotten, or at least ignored, was the wool grower himself, for he had not been consulted when any of the proposals made by the W.P.B. were under consideration. Under these circumstances the wool section of the convention program was a "hot" one. Russell Wilkins, shot that there should be another Boston Tea Party using wool instead of tea has probably been heard around the

world; at least it made Time Magazine (February 7). While other expressions were less vociferous, they were none the less convincing that the growers felt they were not being given fair treatment.



J. M. Jones, Secretary-Treasurer
of the National Wool Growers Association

Mr. Marriner's Statement

Kenneth W. Marriner, chief of the Wool Section of the War Production Board, at the request of President Winder, came to the convention to take part in the discussion of this question, but he apparently was not in a position to reveal anything more concerning the program than had already been in the press or in the general releases of the War Production Board.

In part Mr. Marriner said:

Few important decisions in Washington can be made independently by one individual or agency. They must receive approval of a great many persons and it takes a long time to get a decision in Washington. The War Production Board consulted many agencies before deciding to make the stockpile wool owned by the United States available for use. Two years ago I thought that wool should be held until after the war. It is now my firm belief that it is in the interest of the government and in the interest

of the wool and manufacturing industry that this wool be used while the total consumption is large enough to absorb it

Domestic production is around 460 million pounds of wool and consumption is running at over a billion pounds. In 1944 consumption will probably exceed the billion pounds. It is necessary to import five or six hundred million pounds of wool Therefore, by selling the stockpile we will only be cutting down the imports by 300 million pounds. On the other hand, if this stockpile were held until consumption falls back to its peacetime levels of around 600 million pounds, it would have a most serious effect upon the domestic market. The British Government has, as you know, a substantial quantity of Australian and South African wool in this country and there are supplies in other primary producing countries. It might not be too easy, therefore, to sell our stockpile wools abroad at the end of the war.

It is my honest belief that we should take the necessary steps now to move this wool rather than to rely upon the uncertain future. The direct effect of selling this wool will be to reduce imports rather than to displace domestic wool. Domestic wool has not been used in the manufacture of civilian goods as freely as it should because imported wool is available at lower prices. Domestic wool is today priced at approximately \$1.18 (clean). The Australian grower is able to land his wool on our shores for 66 cents (clean) and after adding the duty of 34 cents, it is costing the manufacturer \$1.00, or 18 cents below the cost of domestic wool. It is only natural that consumers will purchase their wools where they can get them at the best price.

The "hold-the-line" order makes it impossible for the consumer price on manufactured goods to be raised, and manufacturers are therefore obliged to use cheaper imported wools for civilian goods, and the sale of domestic wool depends entirely upon Army orders. Military orders in 1943 were reduced to replacements and it is possible that requirements for 1944 will not exceed more than one-half the domestic wool crop.

I can assure you, gentlemen, that you will have real concern if 1944 should close with the stockpile not touched and the usual domestic clip on the government's hands. I don't dispute the fact that the wool growing industry will need some support in addition to the tariff if flocks are to be maintained under today's high labor and feed costs But I would like to leave with you the thought that it is best to see that stocks of wool owned by the government are at a minimum when the war ends. Now is the time to start making this program effective.

Discussion

Growers very readily availed themselves of the opportunity to ask questions. Russell Wilkins of Merriam and Wilkins asked, "Whose decision is it that the stockpile be sold? We have no

market for wool. We cannot sell wool for 66 cents. I have talked with no wool grower who was consulted in this matter."

Mr. Marriner said that every department of the government who has any interest in the wool was represented at the conference which considered the proposal to sell the stockpile.

Secretary W. P. Wing of the California Wool Growers Association, asked:

Will it be the policy of the government not to consult with the producers and manufacturers when it becomes necessary to dispose of more of the surplus stockpiles? Do you mean to say that the producers of all these commodities in the United States, who have gone through great difficulties to aid in the war program, are not going to be consulted? Some growers may be in agreement with the plan, but it is certainly high-handed treatment when such action is being taken without consultation with the producers of that commodity.

Mr. Marriner's reply to that was, "I do know when the foreign wool stockpile problem was before us, every department of agriculture was asked to give it consideration before we voted on it. The Department of Agriculture, War Food Administration, and War Production Board knew what was going on. So far as giving the news to farmers and consulting them, the agencies who represent them in Washington would be the ones to do that."

Mr. Wing then said, "We believe that Mr. Marriner wants to be fair. We in California have strongly urged that wool surpluses be disposed of now instead of later, but we do consider that the producers should be consulted."

Then, Mr. Marriner said: "I will do my best to see that in the future, when a problem is of sufficient magnitude to affect wool growers, the proper agency is notified. It is not our job to deal with the farmers. It is up to the Department of Agriculture to do that."

President Winder stated, "I know of no time when any one in the Department of Agriculture has been designated to speak for wool growers."

S. W. McClure of Idaho asked Mr. Marriner if it were proposed to limit imports if the stockpile wools were put on the market at this time. Mr. Marriner replied:

I am sure that no intelligent thinking man would agree that we should shut off imports when all we are doing is trying to win this war, and to do it we have to give the manufacturers the kind of wool they need. The stockpile contains wool that can be used by a majority of the mills. However, there is very little crossbred wool in it. The best way to get rid of the stock-

pile wool is to put it on the market so that the mills can plan and import what they need.

R. A. Ward, manager of the Pacific Wool Growers, suggested that importations of grades of wool that we have on hand should be stopped, but Mr. Marriner said he did not think that that could be done.

Then, President J. S. Hofmann of the Colorado Association asked at what price the stockpile wools would be sold.

"The responsibility of selling the stockpile is in the hands of the Defense Supplies Corporation," Mr. Marriner said. "I feel sure, however, that they will not let that wool be sold at less than import costs of similar wools. At the sale held last week, wools sold at close to 10 per cent above import costs. They are not going to attempt to sell the wool in larger quantities than can be bought. The Advisory Committee will have a very large part in arranging the details of the sale."

Mr. Hofmann said, "Growers can not understand why there isn't a greater correlation between the various government agencies—for instance the War Production Board is continuing to build up a stockpile by allowing imports while the Defense Supplies Corporation is attempting to sell one."

"I want to assure you," said Mr. Marriner, "that there has always been the greatest cooperation between our agency and the C.C.C. We both have different jobs. They were asked to buy the domestic clip at a price that was so high that only the government could afford to purchase goods made from that wool. Now we have reached the stage where there isn't enough government business to use that wool."

R. C. Rich, (Idaho), took exception to Mr. Marriner's statement about the high price paid for domestic wool. "How much increase has there been in the price of domestic wool," he asked, "from the Monday following the Pearl Harbor affair up to now?"

"None that I know of," Mr. Marriner said, "because before that time the Quartermaster was paying enough to permit manufacturers to buy wool at that price."

"The point I am making," said Mr. Rich, "is that the American wool grower is about the only producer of a strategic commodity who is getting the same price for his product that he got before the war broke."

What President Don Clyde of the

Utah Association wanted to know was what assurance growers have, in the light of the good neighbor policy of our State Department, that when this stockpile is used up, the State Department will not continue to buy wools from foreign countries.

The growers were left to draw their own conclusions from Mr. Marriner's statement that the War Production Board had passed upon the purchase of the Uruguayan wool.

Secretary Hooper of the Utah Association said that if the government wool purchase program was continued, the American grower would be fully protected if the disposal of the stockpile went into effect. The feeling of the growers generally was expressed by Vice President Earwood of Texas when he said that after 1941 growers were asked to increase their production in order to insure sufficient wool supplies for military and civilian use and they felt they were entitled to some consideration now with the existing surpluses.

Congratulating the growers on their response to meet the demand for larger production, Mr. Marriner declared that he had been very loathe to put on government restrictions, that he had fought against mandatory blending, and that he did not now think the industry should be prohibited from using whatever wool it needs.

J. B. Wilson corroborated Mr. Marriner's statement that he had worked against the institution of mandatory blending but said it was difficult for him to understand why just three or four weeks after the W.P.B. had rescinded that section of M-73 limiting the use of wool in the manufacture of civilian goods, it commenced talking about the sale of the stockpile wools. Question was also raised by Mr. Wilson on a statement made by Mr. Marriner to the effect that an agreement existed between the United States and Great Britain which prevented the exportation of the stockpile wools. He said that such a provision was certainly not in the original agreement covering the establishment of the reserve surplus of wool in this country.

In addition to the discussion on the floor of the convention, the Wool Marketing Committee, before preparing its recommendations as to what the Association's position should be on the disposal of the stockpile wools, held several open sessions, largely attended, which gave everyone interested full op-

portunity to express their views. The convention was in complete agreement on the committee's report which said:

We recommend that the so-called stockpile wools now owned by the Defense Supplies Corporation be definitely placed in the hands of the Commodity Credit Corporation to be disposed of along with domestic wool in accordance with market requirements and under a program which will not unduly depress prices or disorganize markets. If it is not possible to arrange for this concentration of wool in the hands of the Commodity Credit Corporation by conferences with the heads of the existing departments, it is our recommendation that we seek the assistance of Congress in setting up a program under which this plan may be carried out. We are also of the belief that some restriction or regulation of wool imports is essential if the present wool surpluses are to be disposed of, and it is our suggestion that wherever possible, import licenses for grades or types of wool available in our market shall not be issued for the importation of foreign wools.

On motion of President Floyd Lee of the New Mexico Association, President G. N. Winder of the National Association was selected by the convention to be the growers' representative on the Advisory Committee to confer with the Defense Supplies Corporation on the matter of the disposal of the stockpile wools and given power to name his own alternate.

Impressive Opening Session

So much for the stockpile question. Now, to go back to the opening of the convention. It was a very moving one with the posting of the colors and the pledging of allegiance to the flag by the entire assembly of growers. President Winder declared the convention in session at 10:30 a.m. on the morning of the 24th. Following the invocation by the Reverend W. Scott McMunn, pastor of the First United Presbyterian Church of Denver and also president of the Denver Ministerial Alliance, growers were welcomed to the State of Colorado by Governor John C. Vivian.

He keynoted the morning session with a strong plea for a return to free enterprise and the reestablishment of state rights. "I would like to see you people," said Governor Vivian, "able to do what you want to do with your business. I hope it will soon be possible for us to get back to individual enterprise and initiative, back to the law of supply and demand. One trouble with the economy of the United States today is that we have a lot of inefficient, incompetent people trying to run things. A lot of them who were not able to run

QUOTA PAYMENTS BY STATE ASSOCIATIONS IN 1943

State	Quota for 1943	Amount Dues Received
Arizona	\$ 582.00.....	\$ 24.00
California	4,202.00.....	2,716.19
Colorado	2,667.00.....	2,735.00
Idaho	2,429.00.....	2,429.00
Montana	5,267.00.....	2,736.50
Nevada	1,033.00.....	4.00
New Mexico	2,528.00.....	56.00
Oregon	2,038.00.....	2,066.00
South Dakota	1,880.00.....	600.00
Texas	7,753.00.....	7,757.10
Utah	3,486.00.....	2,107.00
Washington	814.00.....	814.00
Wyoming	5,321.00.....	5,016.00
TOTAL	\$40,000.00.....	\$29,060.79

their own business prior to the war are now telling others how to run theirs. If the government would just quit meddling with the sovereign power of the states, we would get along all right. We have long since reached the point that if we need assistance from the outside we can ask for it"

The Governor further said:

The government is empowered to do only certain things under the Constitution, but official Washington has taken over many more duties than the Constitution gives them and now we are being ruled not by laws written by Congress but by edicts, directives, and regulations given the force of law, but which are absolutely illegal in my opinion. We shall continue to give everything to the war effort, but the minute the war is over we are going to insist that our rights be returned to the sovereign states to administer . . .

If we are to maintain state sovereignty and to maintain our way of living, you people are going to have to make yourselves heard. You are going to have to devote more time to government. Any time you take anything away from your local authority, any time you give up anything your local agencies should have, you are dealing a vital blow against the Constitution of the United States. We do not need to say to you that it is now essential, if we are going to maintain the American way, that every one must pay more attention to government. . . I believe the best kind of government we ever had was when the people down in New England met in the little town hall, because then the people were running the government. We have got to take this government over again.

Vice President Mac Hoke, speaking for the wool growers in his usual statesmanlike manner, commended Governor Vivian for his courageous statements on state rights and bureaucracy. Mr. Hoke said:

I think there has been handed down to the American people through the history of our country a firm belief in the dignity and importance of the individual. Individual effort is destroyed by too much government. We admit that a certain amount of centralized control is necessary, but the government today is more or less infringing upon state rights and the rights of the individual.

We must divest ourselves of bureaucracy. We must return to freedom of enterprise. I was glad to hear the Governor mention that he thought we should take more interest in government affairs. Democracy is an old form of government. It has failed many times in the past simply because in prosperous times the bureaucrats have been permitted to take over. We must make democracy work.

Mr. Hoke spoke hopefully of the future both for the sheep industry and the country in general, providing bureaucratic control could be eliminated. "We must keep our feet on the ground," he said, "because only those who are able to keep their feet on the ground are able to contemplate the stars above."

President Winder in his excellent address (printed in full in this issue) also showed himself to be in complete accord with Governor Vivian and Mr. Hoke on the necessity of reestablishment of free enterprise and the sovereign rights of states.

The financial position of the Association was briefly summarized by Acting Secretary Jones at the opening of his report to the convention. Receipts during 1943 totaled \$35,055.36, which was \$6,387.24 less than the amount expended for the activities during the year. The expenditures amounted to \$28,668.12. This left the Association in a cash position of approximately \$5,000 better than at the close of the previous year.

Under the heading, "Washington As Seen Through the Eyes of a Farm Boy," Mr. Jones gave a graphic account of his experiences in Washington immediately following the heavy shipment of sheep and lambs last fall when the markets over the country were glutted with mutton that could not be moved. He spoke of his unavailing attempts to have ration points adjusted to induce larger purchases of the lower grades of lamb and mutton.

J. B. Wilson, chairman of the Legislative Committee, followed Mr. Jones with a report of the work attempted and accomplished in Washington during the past year. Emphasizing the difficulty of getting anything done in Washington on account of divided authority, Mr. Wilson said that there were days, weeks, and months of conferences in connection with the wool purchase program alone in which the entire Legislative Committee composed of the President and Vice Presidents of the Association participated. He said he only wished that he were able to report greater progress on some of the other questions of importance to the industry.

"About all we can say," he said, "is perhaps if we had not been there things might have been worse, although some of you cannot imagine how that could be.

"We tried to get ceiling prices on wool increased. We think we had a good case in the amendment to the Price Control Act of October, 1942, providing for adjustments to meet increased costs in production. Figures compiled by the Tariff Commission show that the cost of producing wool increased materially from 1942 to 1943. We submitted those figures to the Office of Price Administration, but they always came back with the stock answer: 'But, gentlemen, we would be violating the President's hold-the-line order.' In other words a directive had superseded the law passed by Congress

"It is high time to change that. It is time to clean house and we must do a thorough job of that house cleaning. . . .

"I think we must plan for the future. This postwar planning is a great indoor sport. Really all of them are planning for something they don't know anything about. Our immediate problem is the disposal of the so-called government stockpile."

After briefly reviewing the history of the setting up of this strategic wool reserve, Mr. Wilson said:

On December 16 all of us were shocked to receive the announcement that the War Production Board was going to dispose of this stockpile. They were not going to interfere with imports and they were going to market it in such a way that it would not interfere with the domestic wool. The gentlemen who made that statement were insulting the intelligence of a ten-year-old child. How are you going to continue to import and sell over 300 million pounds when we already have more wool in this country than there is a market for? Gentlemen, it just doesn't make sense that you can dump

300 million pounds of wool in this country when you already have 200 million pounds of unsold wool. I think our position on the sale of this stockpile wool should be that we expect the government to keep its promise, the promise made by the officials of the government when the stockpile was created, and insist that these stockpile wools will be used in this country only in case of extreme emergency and then for defense purposes.

Mr. Wilson complimented the Quartermaster Department, particularly Brigadier-General C. L. Corbin, in charge of procuring clothing for the Army, for the way in which they had kept their promise to give domestic wool preference in all military orders.

He continued:

The only market the domestic wool growers have had in the past two years has been with the Army. We are not getting any civilian business. The Army requirements last year totaled around 300 million pounds clean. They now estimate that Army requirements for this year will be about 60 per cent of that of 1943. Personally, I think that more than likely it will be around 40 per cent. Whatever they are, domestic wool will be given preference.

The O.P.A. Act expires on June 30 of this year. A determined effort will be made by agriculture and business, and I think everyone except the government bureaucrats, to have that act written in such language that even the lawyers and economists of the O. P.A. cannot possibly misinterpret it. I believe that the Act will be amended so that the O.P.A. will be compelled to carry out the clear intent of Congress as written in the law.

I believe that we are entitled to a materially higher wool ceiling. However, I don't believe a higher wool ceiling at the moment would do us any particular good so far as the sale of the wool is concerned. . . .

We are interested in the continuation of the Commodity Credit Corporation wool purchase program. Last spring J. B. Hutson, president of the C. C. C., said that they expected to continue to purchase the clip at ceiling prices during the war. Again in December before the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency, in response to questioning of Senators Thomas of Idaho and O'Mahoney of Wyoming, Mr. Hutson indicated that they would purchase the clip for the duration of the war at ceiling prices, but if the program continued for two years after the war, it probably would not be possible to buy it at those prices. He did say, however, that he could probably make as good or better case for wool as for any other commodity.

I feel that the life of the C. C. C. will be extended. Some of our friends think that the present Bankhead bill extending the life of the C. C. C. would not permit a continuation of the wool program. Senator O'Mahoney of my own state, who has probably done as much for the wool growers as any one in Washington, thinks it would preclude the continuation of the wool program. I personally do not believe that it will interfere with the operation of the wool program. Also, I do not think we need to have much concern about the Bankhead bill. If it is passed and agreed to in Congress, I am sure that the President will veto it, and I do not believe that it can be passed over the President's veto. So then they will have to get busy and find some way of extending the life

of the C. C. C., in which case we have every assurance that they will continue their wool program . . .

A very interesting report of the auxiliary activities in war times was given by Mrs. W. A. Roberts, president of the national organization, at the opening session. Her address will be printed in full next month.

1944 Officers

Also at the morning session, President Winder announced the appointment of C. B. Wardlaw, immediate past president of the Association, as chairman of the Nominating Committee, and asked that each state give Mr. Wardlaw the name of its representative on that committee. The recommendation of this committee, presented at the closing session of the convention, that all officers be reelected was unanimously accepted. As you know, these officers are: President, G. N. Winder, Craig, Colorado; vice presidents, Sylvan J. Pauly, Deer Lodge, Montana; Mac Hoke, Pendleton, Oregon; T. C. Bacon, Twin Falls, Idaho; Fred T. Earwood, Sonora, Texas; and H. J. Devereaux, Rapid City, South Dakota.

J. M. Jones, who has been acting secretary since last August when F. R. Marshall resigned, was the unanimous choice of the Executive Committee to fill the job of Secretary of the Association. He was named in their meeting following the convention.

Other Wool Matters

Except for the opening session, the convention was conducted largely as an open forum with panels of authorities on various angles of the problems under consideration leading out in the discussion and answering questions asked from the convention floor. Each session was presided over by one of the vice presidents, and had its own moderator. For the wool discussion, which commenced on the afternoon of the first day, Vice President Sylvan J. Pauly was in the chair with R. C. Rich of Idaho in charge of the discussion.

Next to the stockpile question which has already been covered, the government purchase program for 1944 was the most important wool matter before the convention. Mr. Lawrence Myers, who is administrator of the wool program for the C.C.C., was a member of the panel of the wool section of the convention. "The wool purchase pro-

gram of the C.C.C.," Mr. Myers said, "was set up in recognition of the fact that wool growers had been encouraged to produce wool in large quantities despite increased production costs, and while a stockpile of foreign wool was being accumulated in this country, and further because of the fact that the government in its purchase of woolen materials for the Army and Navy was giving preference to the purchase of domestic wool." . . .

Mr. Myers further said:

We thought it only right that prices should be at the ceiling. I must confess that I did not expect that government orders would cease quite so soon. I did not think that the purchase program would be of such benefit to growers so soon. Of the 1943 clip we have appraised approximately 248 million pounds of wool, and 229 million pounds have been invoiced to you. Of the 229 million pounds, we have sold 58 million, leaving a stock of around 171 million pounds . . .

We have made these sales despite the fact that "free" domestic wool was available in the market and despite the fact that government orders were not so large; so we are getting some domestic business . . .

We expect this program to be temporary. I would say the more temporary the better. As soon as the war is over and the wool grower is back on his feet, certainly we are going out of the wool business. Because of that fact we want to handle this wool through the regular trade channels . . . We have had very good success in working through the trade and I want to express my appreciation to the trade for the way they have carried this program along . . . We are buying wool at ceiling price less marketing cost including an allowance to the dealers for their services, cost of transportation to Boston, and allowance to the C. C. C. for cost and risks it is assuming in the handling of this wool. This allowance for the C. C. C. amounts to 1½ cents; the eighth of a cent to cover appraisals, and the cent to cover all other administrative costs and interest on the money used in the program. We thought this would give us full protection but we were a little bit on the optimistic side. We expected wool to sell more quickly than it has.

Mr. Myers said it was a debatable question on how much the present ceiling on wool products would permit the use of domestic wool, but he had recently understood that such ceilings would reflect the higher cost of domestic wool.

In regard to the 1944 program Mr. Myers said:

I want to say that we would have long since been out with such a program and in operation had Congress voted us a sufficient lease on life. What we did was to extend the 1943 purchase to the 1st of March. At that time we hope Congress will have decided just what to do. Just at the moment our attitude is that of a dying man who does not want to undertake a lot of obligations. If Congress gives us a new lease on life and there is not too much opposition on the part of the growers, we will continue the program . . . We are coming to a point where



Marsh Lea, Ft. Stockton, New President of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association



Ray W. Willoughby, First Vice President, Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association

we are beginning to look at postwar problems. While we have not won the war yet, we at least do not have to fear the U-boats as we did two years ago. On that account it is possible for us to agree with Mr. Mariner on the desirability of our disposing of the strategic stockpile while the domestic consumption is at a high level, and we are simply displacing additional imports and getting our house in order so that we will not have large stocks hanging over the mar-



S. L. Stumberg, Sanderson, Second Vice President, Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association



Ward Van Horn, Buffalo, Vice President of the Western South Dakota Sheep Growers Association

ket. The only problem that concerns me is whether or not we are going to accumulate a stockpile of domestic wool. It would seem to me that any program for the disposal of wool—government wool—should be a program to dispose of all government wool. I think that the two stockpiles are all a part of the government stockpile of wools. We are facing the problem of whether or not we can sell a higher priced article in the market at the side of a lower priced one. To that problem you need to give consideration. (Continued on page 40)

American Wool Council Meeting

THE work of the American Wool Council in 1943 as reported by Executive Director Ackerman at the third annual meeting of the American Wool Council in Denver, Colorado, on January 23, is set up in full in this issue. Operations in 1944, it was decided, would be continued along the same lines, with provision for changes as circumstances arise.

Considerable time in the membership meeting of the Council was devoted to a discussion of ways and means of handling collections in 1944. While collections and contributions in 1943, as shown in the table, were only \$3,000 under those of the preceding year, it was recognized that before the 1944 shearing season opened, some definite arrangement with the Commodity Credit Corporation to have the collections made, or between the primary handlers and individual growers, would necessarily have to be worked out. Announcement will be made as soon as the collection plan has been set up.

In recognition of substantial contributions made during 1943 to the wool work, the following were elected to membership in the Council: Armour and Company, Swift and Company, and Wilson and Company, packers; the Arizona Mohair Growers Association; the Colorado-New Mexico Wool Marketing Association; the Central Wool Marketing Corporation of Montana; the Wyoming Cooperative Marketing Association; Hollowell, Jones and Donald, and Munro, Kincaid, Edgehill, wool dealers of Boston; Max Schuft and Son, and M. E. Hafner, wool handlers of South Dakota.

J. S. Hofmann, president of the Colorado Wool Growers Association, was elected to succeed E. Clair Hotchkiss as a member of the Board of Directors, while all the other directors whose terms expired last month were reelected: Gordon Griswold, president of the Nevada Wool Growers Association; Vestel Askew, secretary, Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association; James A. Hooper for the National Wool Marketing Corporation; George L. Anderson for the National Wool Trade Association; C. B. Wardlaw, R. C. Rich and W. P. Wing for the National Wool Growers Association.

The Board of Directors, which met

immediately after the members' meeting, renamed R. C. Rich of Idaho and J. B. Wilson of Wyoming, as president and vice president of the Council, and selected J. M. Jones to succeed F. R. Marshall, who resigned last August, as secretary-treasurer.

1943 WOOL PROMOTION FUND COLLECTIONS

Arizona:	
Munro, Kincaid, Edgehill, Inc.....\$	8.30
Arizona Mohair Growers Assn.....	*500.00
	508.30
California:	
Adams & Leland, Inc.....	52.10
H. I. Haber Wool Co.....	19.40
California Wool Growers Assn.....	2.60
Pacific Wool Growers.....	116.10
	190.20
Colorado:	
Draper & Co.....	42.20
Munro, Kincaid, Edgehill, Inc.....	983.45
S. Silberman & Sons.....	184.60
Chas. J. Webb Sons Co.....	3.10
Colorado Wool Growers Assn.....	*374.50
Colorado Wool Marketing Assn.....	1,007.40
Wyoming Cooperative Marketing.....	.10
Individual Contributions.....	66.10
	2,661.45
Idaho:	
Adams & Leland, Inc.....	116.51
Colonial Wool Company.....	448.20
Draper and Company.....	222.20
Forte, Dupee & Sawyer.....	814.50
Hollowell, Jones & Donald.....	253.10
S. Silberman & Sons.....	4.45
Chas. J. Webb Sons Co.....	561.60
Idaho Wool Growers Assn.....	18.10
Pacific Wool Growers.....	27.50
Individual Contributions.....	88.70
	2,554.86
Montana:	
Colonial Wool Co.....	89.80
Draper & Company.....	112.60
Hollowell, Jones & Donald.....	75.80
Munro, Kincaid, Edgehill, Inc.....	18.40
S. Silberman & Sons.....	211.00
Wyoming Cooperative Marketing.....	3.50
Central Wool Marketing Corp.....	667.80
	1,178.90
Nevada:	
Colonial Wool Co.....	93.30
Draper & Company.....	53.40
Hollowell, Jones & Donald.....	30.90
Harold T. Lindsay.....	8.00
Pacific Wool Growers.....	41.40
	227.00
New Mexico:	
Colonial Wool Co.....	8.10
Munro, Kincaid, Edgehill, Inc.....	211.10
Colorado Wool Marketing Assn.....	13.20
New Mexico Wool Growers Assn.....	*373.10
Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers Assn.....	2.30
	607.80
Oregon:	
Colonial Wool Co.....	54.10
Draper & Co.....	168.90
H. I. Haber Wool Co.....	1.00
Hollowell, Jones & Donald.....	219.40
Munro, Kincaid, Edgehill, Inc.....	104.50
Pacific Wool Growers.....	260.30

Oregon Wool Growers Assn.....	172.90
Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers Assn.....	5.00
	986.10

South Dakota:	
M. E. Hafner.....	977.60
Hollowell, Jones & Donald.....	3.50
Munro, Kincaid, Edgehill, Inc.....	8.30
Max Schuft & Son.....	304.10
South Dakota Wool Cooperative.....	3,126.45
Wyoming Cooperative Marketing.....	.10
	4,420.05

Texas:	
Colonial Wool Co.....	50.90
American Angora Goat Breeders.....	1,000.00
Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers.....	5,382.35
	6,433.25

Utah:	
Adams & Leland, Inc.....	51.95
Draper & Co.....	181.30
Munro, Kincaid, Edgehill, Inc.....	260.90
S. Silberman & Sons.....	5.60
Colorado Wool Marketing Assn.....	.10
Individual Contributions.....	55.00
	554.85

Washington:	
Draper & Co.....	45.70
Pacific Wool Growers.....	43.40
Central Wool Marketing Corp.....	.40
	89.50

Wyoming:	
Colonial Wool Co.....	35.60
Draper & Co.....	113.60
Hollowell, Jones & Donald.....	114.40
Harris Wool Co.....	443.60
Munro, Kincaid, Edgehill, Inc.....	432.90
S. Silberman & Sons.....	782.00
Chas. J. Webb Sons Co.....	1.60
Colorado Wool Marketing Assn.....	11.50
Wyoming Wool Growers Assn.....	1,288.67
Wyoming Cooperative Mktg. Assn.....	906.60
	4,130.47

Special Contributions:	
Hollowell, Jones & Donald.....	500.00
Munro, Kincaid, Edgehill, Inc.....	1,000.50
Swift & Co.....	9,192.56
Armour & Co.....	7,074.51
Wilson & Co.....	500.00
Colorado Wool Marketing Assn.....	
(not allocated).....	4.70
	18,272.27

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS.....\$42,815.00

*Collected by Colorado-New Mexico Wool Marketing Association.

Contributors to the Wool Fund

COLORADO	
J. Hugo Lange	R. J. Terrill
Ben F. Roman	
IDAHO	
Fred T. Hoelzle	A. E. Holmquist & Sons
OREGON	
J. G. Barratt	H. G. Brown
TEXAS	
T. M. Williams,	Bonded Warehouse
WYOMING	
Wm. J. Atkinson	George J. Fuller
U. S. Archibald	Gothberg Livestock Co.
Joe Alemeda	Vernon S. Griffith
Ed A. Beebe	Hadsell Sheep Co.
W. O. Bishop	John E. Julian
Eugene Bagley	Leckie Sheep Co.
Owen A. Covey	Magagna Brothers
A. A. Covey	Nimmo Livestock Co.
Paul H. Crofts	Rate & Company
Cole Creek Sheep Co.	Salt Well Livestock Co.
William S. Dereemer	Frank Stout
Diamond C. Sheep Co.	Swan Company
John Dayton	J. M. & W. B. Snyder
C. M. Edwards	Fred R. Thomas
Howard Flitner	Willow Creek Co.
Arthur Faulkner	

American Wool Council Operations in 1943

By **F. E. Ackerman,**
Executive Director

A REPORT on the seven months' operations of the American Wool Council during 1943 was made to the Executive Committee at its annual meeting in Salt Lake City on August 4, 1943. This report, covering operations for the full year of 1943, repeats in some measure the material contained in the ad interim report

The year 1943 has been one of steady growth for the American Wool Council. The Council is becoming so widely recognized as a source of information and education regarding wool and wool products that it is becoming increasingly difficult to meet requests for informative and promotional material.

Your Executive Director is finding it necessary to give more and more time to the Council. Those who are familiar with its work during the past year will testify to this and to the extensive amount of personal effort required in the preparation of memoranda and analyses.

Interest in the Council's work is not confined to this country. We are in receipt of numerous inquiries by letter, by cable, and by radio from British, Australian, New Zealand, and South African publications and wool growers' organizations. Articles and statements issued by the Council have been widely printed abroad. Within a period of six weeks we received forty letters from publications, associations, and well-known factors in the British wool textile industry asking for booklets, reprints of articles, and transcriptions of radio addresses.

Despite the expansion of the work of the Council during 1943, your Executive Director points with justifiable pride to the fact that total expenditures were at a level approximating 1943.

Self-Supporting Booklets

During the past year, the American Wool Council was successful in having the cost of printing 1,000,000 copies of "Your Woolens—Their Wear and Care" and 200,000 copies of "A Wool Primer" paid for by manufacturers and retail merchants who issued them under their own imprint. Printing costs for the



F. E. Ackerman

booklet, "Your Woolens—Their Wear and Care," amounted to \$10,303.03. The printing cost for the first 200,000 copies of "A Wool Primer" amounted to \$5,404.00, or a total for both booklets of \$15,707.03. These printing costs are exclusive of the large mailing costs entailed in such a wide distribution. These were also borne by the different firms who distributed the booklets. Also, it is interesting to note that the value of radio time obtained free of charge by the American Wool Council, according to figures from the radio companies themselves, was approximately \$9,000. Thus, self-sustaining costs of publication and of radio time amounted to approximately \$25,000, which is in excess of the total amount expended by the Council for all of its activities for the full year of 1943.

Wool Faces Critical Future

During 1944 textile mills in all divisions of the industry will be gradually returned in large part to civilian production. Wool growers and wool textile manufacturers face the imperative necessity of developing a comprehensive postwar program to protect their products against the energetic and ever-

increasing competition of synthetic fiber manufacturers. They must understand that it is the intention and purpose of the producers of rayon and of the chemical and protein fibers, such as nylon, velon, aralac and others which are still in the experimental stage, to pre-empt the market for woolens. The rayon industry enters 1944 with a production capacity of 800,000,000 pounds, which represents approximately 1,600,000,000 grease pounds of wool. Rayon producers must expand present markets and develop new markets for this tremendous output. The campaign to accomplish this is already well under way. It is estimated that the rayon industry, as a whole, during 1944 will expend not less than \$30,000,000 in experimentation, sales promotion, and advertising.

Wool growers face perplexing war and peacetime problems with respect to equalizing the prices for foreign and domestic wool. Both wool growers and wool textile manufacturers, in addition, face the probability of an intensive competition from foreign wool growing countries and foreign wool textile manufacturers. All previous conceptions of tariff protection are under attack. We are entering a postwar world of international exchange of commodities and manufactured products for the joint benefit of all nations. Our free economy promises to be in active competition with controlled economies. No American products will be more immediately or widely affected by these new economic and political theories than will wool and wool textiles. It is urgently recommended therefore that at this convention wool growers appoint a Postwar Planning Committee which will operate in conjunction with the American Wool Council and a committee representing American wool textile manufacturers in formulating a program to obtain sufficient protection for the American wool growing and wool textile industry to insure a continuance of their employment capacity by protecting them against extinction as a result of foreign lower cost competition.

General Activities of the Council In 1943

Continuously and without interruption the American Wool Council during 1944 opposed all limitations on the use of wool for civilian purposes. Today there are no limitations on the use of wool, and wool textile manufacturers are being urged to increase civilian production to the utmost.

The Council opposed all efforts made to standardize wool textiles, which would have resulted in the production of a limited number of specific types of materials at fixed ceiling prices.

The Council conducted a campaign against scare buying by consumers and against repeated efforts to ration apparel wools and men's and women's clothing.

The Council worked with agencies of the government and outlined plans for simplification of textiles for a more even production of different types and kinds of textiles in which shortages threatened to result in the channeling of production.

Representatives of the Council have made a number of appearances before business groups including retail merchants, garment manufacturers, and sales organizations discussing wool and its future. Among its specific activities of that kind were the following:

1. The American Wool Council initiated and carried to successful conclusion a campaign to permit the use of wool textiles in men's, women's and children's bathrobes. This elimination of wool from a widely used product was the first of many such contemplated restrictions. Defeat of this order undoubtedly affected the general plan, which was abandoned.
2. The Council, in a series of interviews, statistical studies, illustrated feature stories, radio reviews, and bulletins to retail merchants fought scare buying by the public and opposed clothes rationing. Total space occupied by news stories and magazine articles exceeded eight hundred columns and had a circulation of more than one hundred million.
3. The booklet, "Your Woolens—Their Wear and Care," went into a fourth printing with a total issue of 1,000,000 copies. This has rarely been exceeded by any other similar trade brochure. Seventy retail stores in thirty-seven states sent out over 500,000 copies to their customers at their own expense. The booklet continues to go to educational institutions, consumer groups, civilian defense groups, manufacturers, and others. As an evidence of its value, the American Viscose Corporation copied most of its text as part of its own educational program and sent it out under its own imprint.
4. We called the attention of the Federal

Trade Commission to six violations of Fair Trade Practices affecting wool. Affirmative action was taken on four of them. In one of these instances, the New York Times published an advertisement indicating that wool could be made by rayon methods. After many conferences the Times published an advertisement praising wool's exclusive virtues and agreed that a different policy respecting the promotion of rayon would be followed. We attacked advertising of a rayon fleece coating and questioned Montgomery Ward and Company's conception of the correct definition for wool. In pursuing this matter, we have had a long correspondence with legal counsel for the concern.

5. The Council cooperated in drawing up the plan adopted by the Office for Civilian Requirements respecting an increase in the amount of wool for civilians during the latter part of 1943. The Council also filed a brief against the then-pending plan of the O.P.A. to standardize woolen textiles and limit production to a few standard cloths.
6. The Council in May inaugurated a photographic feature service to newspapers. The success of this service is illustrated in the fact that some eighty newspapers carried half-page articles on the first release under three-column headlines. Through a cooperative arrangement, readers are advised by the one hundred leading newspapers who receive our features, where the garments may be purchased. In turn the leading stores of the country buy and feature the garments we select for the photographs.
7. The Council has inaugurated a radio service in cooperation with the National Association of Women Broadcasters by which we serve them with authentic news on wool and woolens. Five hundred eighty-three women reaching feminine audiences all over the country receive this news report, written to occupy a specified interval of time. The first release was o.k'd and sent out August tenth.
8. The Council has been represented on ten national and regional broadcasts; 3,000 women requesting the booklet, "Your Woolens—Their Wear and Care," offered on the broadcast. On one national broadcast, Miss Alma Kitchell sent out the Council booklet under her own imprint.
9. The Council is inaugurating an information service to the personnel training staffs of retail stores. Education of sales people is especially important at this time, due to turnover in buying and selling personnel. We have received numerous commendatory letters on this service from merchants all over the country.
10. We are at work on two exhibits on Wool and Mohair to be sent out under the auspices of the Brooklyn Museum. They will reach some 5,000,000 students and educators. The cost cannot be determined accurately but each exhibit will not cost over \$2,000.
11. We have furnished source material to a large number of publications such as Time, Newsweek, Business Week, United States Weekly, and others. We have cooperated with the National Wool Growers Association and with woolen manufacturers in Washington on many matters affecting the industry.

12. During the past year we have developed closer relations with the International Wool Secretariat in London and with a number of British manufacturers and British publications. We have written several special articles for British and Australasian publications, one of which was requested of us on January 3 by cable through the Office of War Information. As a result, we have built up an interesting and desirable foreign mailing list. It is our hope that this closer communication will result in merging the joint educational and promotional efforts in this country of all wool growing interests, both foreign and domestic.

Conclusion

The foregoing report of the operation of the American Wool Council has not endeavored to analyze at any length the perplexing problems facing the American wool growing and wool textile industries. It is believed that the Council can be a potent factor in their solution if it has the support and interest of wool growing and wool textile industries. We are approaching a postwar period in which both agriculture and industry face crucial problems of protective tariffs, of price levels, and the restrictions to which our free economy will be subject. Many of these problems will be revolutionary in character. Wool growers represent an industry with a product valued at \$200,000,000 annually, engaging 500,000 persons directly and indirectly. It is an industry essential to the health and comfort of the people of the country. Aside from its own direct values, it is the foundation stone in the economy of a vast area of the country for which no replacement can be suggested. No reasonable effort should be spared to insure the continued health of this industry and the important part which it plays in our economy.

STATUS OF C. C. C.

The House failed to override the President's veto of the Anti-subsidy Bill and a bill extending the life of the Commodity Credit Corporation to June 30, 1945, is now on its way through Congress. On February 22, the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency gave approval to the measure and undoubtedly there will be quick action upon it by both houses.

The Round of Winter Conventions

By J. M. Jones

THE sheepmen's calendar for the first part of 1944 has now become history with the completion of six successful state conventions and the National.

The 1944 meetings started in Billings, Montana, January 6 to 8, and were continued at Yakima, Washington, January 11 and 12; The Dalles, Oregon, January 14 and 15; Boise, Idaho, January 17 and 18; Salt Lake City, Utah, January 20 and 21; at Denver, Colorado, January 24 to 26 for the National convention; and the final state meeting was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, February 3 and 4.

President G. N. Winder and the Acting Secretary attended and took part in all of these meetings. The President was called to Washington, D. C., at the time of the Albuquerque convention so was unable to be there.

The one thing that stood out in these conventions was the uniformity of thinking and purpose relative to the many problems of the sheep industry. It was found that the problems applying to one state also were problems in every other state. This, of course, means one thing—that the problems of the industry are national in scope; that Washington, D. C., is the place from which the major problems originate and to which the industry must look for assistance and relief.

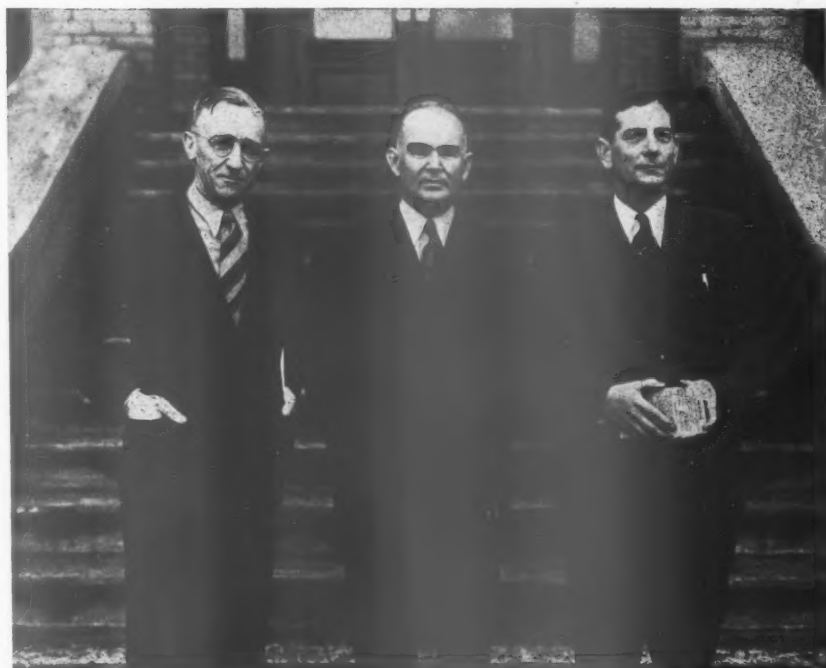
There were many local situations in the various states such as weather, range and feed conditions, but most of the actions could be traced back to abnormal conditions brought on by a country at war, and centralized control.

It was evident that varying degrees of liquidation in sheep numbers has taken place in all of these states, averaging for the states covered about 15 to 20 per cent. The State of Oregon seemed to be the hardest hit, with an estimated decrease in numbers of about 50 per cent.

All of the state conventions adopted resolutions:

(1) Pledging whole-hearted support to the prosecution of the war.

(2) Asking that the government take over the domestic wool clip at ceiling prices for the duration of the war and for two years thereafter and until the



Officers of the Oregon Association (left to right): Walter A. Holt, Secretary; Mac Hoke, President, both of Pendleton; and Wayne G. Stewart of Dayville, Vice President.

stockpile of wool in this country is disposed of.

(3) Recommending the adoption and putting into effect of the wartime meat management plan.

(4) Requesting increased allotment of trucks, machinery, and repair parts in order to assist in maintaining production.

(5) Recommending strenuous efforts be made to secure ammunition for the destruction of predators.

Many other uniform resolutions were passed but they will be indicated later under the various states.

Montana

Over 500 wool growers from all parts of the state attended the 43rd annual convention held in Billings. Sylvan J. Pauly of Deer Lodge was re-elected president, and Wallace Kingsbury of Valier, was re-elected vice president and trustee. Other trustees re-elected were Wallace Ulmer of Miles City and Ernest White of Kalispell. Gene Etchart of Glasgow was named trustee to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of his father, John Etchart.

President Pauly opened the meeting by reviewing and giving his opinion of the present situation affecting the industry. He anticipated that Congress would pass in due time, proper legislation governing the ultimate disposal not only of wool but of all essential accumulated war materials. There is a bill now in Congress which intends to bring this about. However, he warned that there would always be danger to the domestic wool producers as long as a stockpile existed. It was his feeling that the stockpile should not be liquidated until the end of the war was more certain. He felt that the imported wools could be channeled to needy nations more quickly than could our higher priced domestic wools.

Mr. Pauly expressed strong opposition to subsidies and stated that he felt it was wrong to draw on the treasury to pay for food and material when civilian wages are at record levels. He stated that in his opinion there was a sharp distinction between the Commodity Credit Corporation's purchase of the wool clip and subsidies for other commodities. He pointed out that the stockpile was created by military

authorities as a precaution and it was to be used only in dire necessity, and that this sort of a program would have the approval of the wool industry.

He pointed out the fact that if the sheep were solely dependent upon feed distributed from Washington, D. C., that they would all be dead before that feed arrived. He did predict, however, that protein concentrates should be available soon.

He also covered the labor situation and hoped that Mexican Nationals would be obtained for assisting sheep men.

He advocated simplification of income tax law and also indicated that the efforts to control predatory animals were largely handicapped by the lack of ammunition.

In concluding he stated: "We must gird ourselves for a long and bitter struggle. And, after the shooting stops, the same economic and national conflicts which precipitated the war will continue to exist."

Resolutions

Resolutions adopted at the convention:

(1) Urged the continuation of the domestic wool shrinkage testing and asked that information be made available to growers and that application of a reliable sampling method be substantiated at the earliest possible date.

(2) Asked that ration point values be given the same relationship as the price of the lower grades of lamb and mutton are to the higher grades of lamb.

(3) Requested a comprehensive plan for expanding and carrying on further research, and for coordination of research and disease prevention in livestock in Montana.

(4) Opposed the ratification of any treaty permitting the importing of livestock products, including wool, from any country where foot-and-mouth disease prevails.

(5) Unalterably opposed the extension of the trade agreement policy.

(6) Requested that Senators and Representatives in Congress work for legislation which will authorize the United States Forest Service to spend 25 per cent of the forest grazing receipts for the construction and maintenance of range improvements.

(7) Asked that a ten-mill levy be assessed against all sheep in the State of Montana for predatory animal control purposes.

(8) Recommended that a national appropriation of at least one million dollars be made available for predatory animal control for the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

(9) Directed officers to appoint a committee of five to represent the sheepmen on any state planning board organized for postwar planning.

(10) Objected to the plowing of any grass lands, natural or reseeded, and opposed all loans for such operations.

(11) Urged the Federal Government to



President Sylvan J. Pauly
of the Montana Association



G. Curtis Hughes, Secretary
of the Montana Association

remove any ceiling price on horses, and to designate horse meat as necessary food under lend-lease.

(12) Recorded their opposition to any subsidy program by the U. S. Government.

(13) Requested that the Soil Conservation Program of the Department of Agriculture and the Grazing Service of the Department of the Interior be consolidated under one department and administered with stockmen representation on advisory boards.

(14) Commended the railroads for excellent service rendered to agriculture and the public during the past year.

(15) Urged continued debt reduction, economy, and the restriction of public expenditures in harmony with war conditions.

(16) Asked that public improvements be confined to essential projects and within the financial ability of taxing units to construct and maintain.

(17) Recommended that assessed valua-

tion of all sheep be left as near as possible in line with the 1943 recommendations and that 1944 valuations be no higher than for last year.

(18) Commended the Montana Taxpayers Association for its constructive work in the equalization of assessments and urged the active cooperation of wool growers throughout the state in this work.

(19) Pledged full support to the 4th and any other war loan drives.

(20) Opposed continued expenditures of huge sums of money for federal purposes, neither essential to the successful conduct of the war nor the efficient performance of necessary governmental services.

(21) Opposed expansion of the social security program.

(22) Opposed the continued employment of 3 million civilians in government service.

(23) Opposed ever-increasing delegation by Congress of authority and control of expenditures to the numerous bureaus and more than 50 government corporations.

(24) Opposed the expenditure of huge sums of money in other countries throughout the world for purposes that bear little or no relationship to the conduct of the war.

(25) Opposed the conversion or retention by the Federal Government of land, improvement, war plants, and war surpluses, and urged that they be returned to private ownership as fast as such property is not required for the national defense.

(26) Favored taxation on the same equitable basis for all individuals, partnerships, corporations, and enterprises that compete with each other.

Washington

Informal panel discussions of timely topics high-lighted the 50th annual convention at Yakima, Washington. Approximately 250 wool growers and representatives were presided over by President Tom Drumheller, who has served in this capacity for the past 28 years, and who was re-elected again. Rollo A. Jackson of Goldendale was selected again as vice president and Secretary A. E. Lawson of Yakima, who has served 10 years, was continued in his office.

There were few set speeches at the Washington convention, but without doubt all problems were brought in for discussion and were thoroughly aired through this type of program. President Drumheller, in his usual capable manner, directed the discussions and got a great deal out of those present. Wool manufacturers, meat processors, railroad representatives, wool growers, and others took part in the discussion of present problems from all standpoints.

The discussion became heated at times but was always friendly. There is little doubt but that growers received much valuable information and were able to visualize the actual conditions from all points of view and to recognize better the developing trends.



Thomas H. Gooding, of Ketchum, New President of the Idaho Association



M. C. Claar, Secretary of the Idaho Association

Resolutions

The resolutions passed in Washington:

(1) Commended the activities of the American Wool Council and recommended continued support by wool growers.

(2) Approved the activities of the National Livestock and Meat Board.

(3) Approved methods in the leasing of public domain lands in the State of Washington as carried on by the Department of Interior and requested Bureau of Reclamation to consider the same policy.

(4) Asked that the Commodity Credit Corporation give immediate and favorable consideration to the rescinding of that part of F. O. D. 50, as amended, which provides that mills buying wool in the Northwest pay freight to Boston even though the wool is consumed in the northwestern areas.

(5) Opposed the subsidy program and urged that wool growers be allowed to participate and consult with the Office of Economic Stabilization in the formulation of rules and regulations affecting the sheep industry.

(6) Recommended that the price spread between the various grades of carcass lamb should not exceed one-half a cent per pound.

(7) Opposed the government grading of lamb and mutton and asked that packers be allowed to grade their own dressed lambs and mutton.

(8) Urged that instructions be issued to all graders to be more lenient in their grading and that a more uniform system of grading be put into effect throughout the United States.

(9) Unalterably opposed the ceiling on all livestock; believed that policy tends to demolish production and discourage livestock production.

(10) Opposed the acquisition by the Federal Government of vast tracks of land in the various states.

(11) Requested that lands now leased and acquired by Federal Government for war purposes when there is no further need be released for productive use and returned to former occupant.

Oregon

The 48th annual convention of the Oregon Wool Growers Association at The Dalles was attended by over 200 members and representatives of allied industries. The present officers were re-elected for 1944, namely—Mac Hoke, president; Wayne Stewart, vice president; W. A. Holt, secretary-treasurer. Jay Dobbin of Enterprise was elected honorary president of the association following an amendment to the association by-laws providing for an honorary president.

The first Secretary of the Oregon Wool Growers Association, Judge Fred W. Wilson, gave the address of welcome, at which time he pictured the history of the association and told of the changes that had come about since its first meeting.

President Hoke in his address reviewed the many problems of the Oregon sheepmen during the past year, and very forcibly brought out the situation confronting them this year. He spoke on the wool purchase program, government stockpile of foreign wools, subsidies, labor situation, and many other problems, and in this way developed the main topics of discussion which were to follow. At the conclusion of the convention President Hoke summarized convention actions and asked for uniformity of efforts for the



T. J. Drumheller, President of the Washington Association



A. E. Lawson, Secretary of the Washington Association

times ahead. He also indicated that Oregon had had quite a difficult year and that liquidation of numbers had been particularly high in the state due to weather and feed conditions which were beyond the control of the sheepmen.

Resolutions

The convention:

(1) Recommended that the Commodity Credit Corporation and Defense Supplies Corporation work together and adopt a uni-

form sales program for stockpile and domestic wools.

(2) Urged the use of domestic wool in preference to foreign wool in the manufacture for the armed forces, lend-lease, and government account.

(3) Commended the action of the House of Representatives and the United States Senate for empowering the Extension Service to handle farm labor for the duration of the war.

(4) Favored the rationing of meat, but stated that government regulation and directives were hindering the production, feeding, and marketing of livestock and suggested as corrective steps:

(a) Placing of all food problems under War Food Administration including production, distribution, and pricing; (b) demanding the adjustment of ration point values by OPA to alleviate congestion and spoilage of surpluses where such meat is not required for armed services or lend-lease, and that the OPA consult with the War Meat Board; (c) insisting on a realistic meat management plan which would allow for ample killing facilities, fair distribution of meats; and the removal of ceilings on live animals.

(5) Opposed consumer subsidies.

(6) Protested the payment of 2 cents per grease pound charged by Commodity Credit on wools consumed in the Northwest and asked that the C.C.C. immediately rescind the order calling for such charge.

(7) Recommended favorable consideration of a plan to stimulate interest in coyote control throughout the livestock producing area of the state.

(8) Demanded immediate action on the predatory animal problem and requested that the Emergency Committee of the Oregon State Legislature make available state funds to match county funds appropriated for the bounty system of predatory animal control.

(9) Requested one million five hundred dollars be made available to the Fish and Wildlife Service for predatory and rodent control work for the fiscal year 1945 and urged support of the Oregon delegation in Congress for the full appropriation.

(10) Asked that County Rationing Boards be authorized to issue certificates of need to those requesting ammunition, and that livestock operators be given first preference.

(11) Commended the Oregon State Game Commission and U. S. Forest Service for past work and big game studies.

(12) Asked that the State Game Commission continue its program of reducing the numbers of big game animals where necessary.

(13) Commended the U. S. Forest Service for holding allotments vacated by sheep and not suitable for cattle open on non-use permits for readjustments following the end of the war.

(14) Opposed any attempt to modify the Farm Credit Act of 1933 and recognized the importance of the stabilizing influence that this act has had in the financing of livestock production.

(15) Recommended that 50 per cent of funds derived from forest grazing fees be returned for improvement of range trails and other facilities, and requested that Permittee Advisory Boards be set up and consulted when such improvements are contemplated.

(16) Favored strengthening of Oregon Local Budgeting Law in order that all property tax levies may be properly applied and accounted for as an aid in lessening impact of higher taxes when income tax increases fall off.

(17) Commended the efforts of the National Livestock and Meat Board in promoting the use of meat.

Idaho

Over a half century of activities was measured by the Idaho Wool Growers Association when it held its annual meeting at Boise with an attendance of over 400 wool growers and others interested in their affairs. T. H. Gooding of Gooding succeeded H. B. Soulen of Weiser, who for the past four years has served as president of the association. J. H. Breckenridge of Twin Falls was elected vice-president to fill the vacancy left by Mr. Gooding. M. C. Claar retained his present job as secretary-treasurer of the association.

President Soulen in his annual address displayed the courage of his convictions in reviewing the events of last year and the plans for the future. "Perhaps at no time since domestic sheep were first imported into Idaho," he stated in his opening remarks, "have the wool growers of this state and nation been confronted with problems of greater magnitude than today . . . Your obligation as wool growers will not be completed until there shall result from this convention sound, constructive recommendations and resolutions, the attainment of which you shall honestly believe to be beneficial to the war effort, to your country, and to your business."

In speaking of labor, he continued: "The obvious answer to this problem is to pay a competitive wage. No doubt in this day of an almost entirely planned economy, some long-haired economist who has never had to meet a pay roll and who never understood the necessity of a balanced budget will figure out for us how we can do this on \$20 hay with 12 cent lambs and 40 cent wool."

He spoke also of the predatory animal problem and how different it was to operate under conditions in which it was impossible to secure sufficient ammunition and assistance to suppress the work of predators. He stated, "The War Production Board has been unfair to the stockmen in their allocation of ammunition. We shall most certainly continue to complain and protest."

"The payment of subsidies" he said, "is an admission that the receiver thereof is not receiving a fair price for the product he has to sell. A fair price should be construed to mean cost of production plus a reasonable profit."

He cited the predicament growers were in in justifying the request for the

government purchase of domestic wool. He said:

We have been critical of too much government in business, we have opposed the payment of subsidies, we are gravely concerned about the enormous national debt. We must, in all fairness, admit the relationship of those convictions to the wool purchase plan. Had the predicament we find facing us in wool been one of our own making, had we produced this enormous surplus of wool and had we in any way been instrumental in restricting its use, our position would be extremely difficult to defend. The record is clear and it speaks for us. Organized wool growers have consistently opposed the creation of a stockpile larger than 250,000,000 pounds. They have fought with every resource at their command the imposition of such conservation orders that permitted manufacturers to use only twelve and one-half per cent of their basic poundage for civilian goods. They were sure these drastic measures were unnecessary. The belated elimination of these restrictions has proved that they were right. It is, indeed, a tragedy that today the American public with its enormous purchasing power must largely forego the pleasure, satisfaction, and comfort of virgin wool goods.

In conclusion, he stated, "All our grievances are subordinated to winning this war and an early return to the American way of life."

Resolutions

Resolutions adopted by the Idaho Wool Growers Association:

(1) Recommended that in cases where war boards were not performing their duty changes be made so that proper consideration is given the agricultural and livestock industries.

(2) Asked that the disposal of foreign wool stockpiles held in this country be delayed until such time as the domestic wools held by the Commodity Credit Corporation were sold and consumed by the wool manufacturing trade.

(3) Asked that all foreign importations of wool be discontinued until such time as the stockpile has been consumed or disposed of in a satisfactory manner.

(4) Urged the elimination of duplicating federal agencies having the power to buy and sell wool either domestic or foreign, and asked for the consideration of recommendation that control including the issuance of importation licenses be placed under one agency.

(5) Asked that the research work being carried on relative to shrinkage of domestic wool be continued.

(6) Commended the American Wool Council for its efforts in wool promotion and asked that a collection of 10 cents per bag on all wool sold be continued to aid in this work.

(7) Urged the Commodity Credit Corporation to withdraw the unearned service charge of 2 cents per grease pound on wools purchased for consumption in this territory.

(8) Strongly urged the abolishment of the Teton National Monument and asked that untiring support be given to legislation to repeal Section 2 of the Act of January, 1906, "for the preservation of American antiquities and to restore in Congress the power to create national monuments."

(9) Recommended that the U. S. Forest Service and the U. S. Grazing Service give all possible aid and attention toward the eradication of predatory animals.

(10) Favored the construction of drift fences by the Forest Service to alleviate overgrazing in certain areas.

(11) Hoped that the Forest Service would adopt a more liberal policy concerning its road system so that many roads might become eligible for maintenance funds.

(12) Commended the fine efforts of the railroads as applied to the livestock industry.

(13) Opposed rate making by legislation or any change in the present method of rate making.

(14) Complimented the stockyard companies for their handling of livestock in the yards.

(15) Asked that agencies in charge of transportation realize that trucking is a vital factor in the meat industry and urged the area livestock transportation committees to become more cooperative with truckers.

(16) Recommended that the National Association and a delegate from each state association go to Washington and request an increase of the funds to the Fish and Wildlife Service to five million dollars for the control of injurious mammals.

(17) Asked for legislation to have the sum of 50 cents added to each game license for the use of predatory animal control.

(18) Recommended the pooling of all resources under one management for predatory animal control.

(19) Approved the work of the National Livestock Tax Committee in its efforts to have a constant uniform price method of inventorying livestock approved by the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

(20) Directed the officers of the association to continue to fight for an equal adjustment of prices received for products in relation to cost.

(21) Recommended continuation of 100-dollar reward for the arrest and conviction of anyone stealing wool or sheep from members of the association.

Utah

The 37th annual convention of the Utah Wool Growers Association was attended by about 500 members and representatives of allied industries. Don Clyde of Heber City was re-elected president for his third term. D. G. Adams of Layton was elected vice-president to succeed Abe Hansen of Richfield, and the Board of Directors re-elected James A. Hooper of Salt Lake City as secretary for his 21st consecutive year.

President Don Clyde in opening his remarks said: "The 37th annual convention of the Utah Wool Growers Association will require all the wisdom and inspiration of its entire membership if we are to find a solution to the many problems which threaten to disrupt our industry at the present time."

He spoke of the winter season of 1942-1943 as being one of the driest on record on Utah deserts. He indicated that sheep had suffered from lack of moisture and reached lambing grounds generally in weakened condition. Lambing percentages were ten to



Don Clyde, President
of the Utah Association



James A. Hooper, Secretary
of the Utah Association

twelve percent below average, and Utah lambs were several pounds below normal and showed a lack of finish.

In speaking of the efforts of the men in agriculture, he stated:

They are the unsung heroes—the men, women and children who have produced the food which maintains not only our fighting men, but without which no munitions workers, industrial employees, or business executives could accomplish their appointed tasks.

Considerable unfair and erroneous criticism has been directed against producers in the past year by not only misinformed in-

dividuals, and writers, but also by government spokesmen, who have misled the consuming public regarding the excessive profits being made in the production of farm and range crops.

The high costs of retail meat cuts is not chargeable to prices received by growers but to increased labor costs and other expenses incurred from the time the lamb was sold by the grower until the time it reaches the counter of the retailer.

In order to substantiate his remarks Mr. Clyde made a comparison of the prices paid during the month of November, 1918 and 1943, as follows: The average market price for live lambs for 1918 was \$14.50 per hundredweight; for 1943 it was \$13.50. Shoulder of lamb in 1918 was 18 cents, in 1943 it was 30 cents. Leg of lamb in 1918 was 22 cents and in 1943, 38 cents. Lamb chops in 1918 were 20 cents and in 1943, 45 cents.

In speaking of strikes he said: "Any individual, cooperative group, union or brotherhood who stops production in the present emergency to further personal gain is a saboteur, regardless of the justice of his or their complaint In the production of wool and meat which is our direct contribution to the war effort there will be no strike or slow-down, regardless of the positive discrimination and damaging regulations directed against our industry by government agencies."

Mr. Clyde felt that the regulation of meat, the basic American food, has without a doubt been the most mismanaged of any commodity taken under government regulation. He also was of the opinion that food subsidies will extend the power of Federal Government control "over the production, processing and distribution of agricultural products on every farm, village, hamlet and city in this nation."

He spoke on many other subjects such as Selective Service, state school lands, taxes, the big game problem, predatory animal control, feed, and the present wool situation; and in conclusion said: "May this year of 1944 of all years awaken us to the realization that we dare not fail, lest this costly sacrifice over the world be repeated; lest through our failure we forfeit our right to this freedom that our soldiers died to preserve."

Resolutions

Utah wool growers by resolution:

(1) Opposed any act, regulation, or law that will encourage inflationary forces to destroy the democracy or delay the winning of the war.

(2) Approved the policy of paying the costs of war as far as possible out of cur-

rent revenues, and pledged willingness to carry their share of the burden.

(3) Insisted that the Federal Government speed legislation to simplify the federal income tax structure.

(4) Requested that the State Tax Commission continue its examination and reclassification of range lands so as to bring about complete equalization of assessment of range lands throughout the state.

(5) Opposed consumer subsidies and roll-back prices.

(6) Urged the discontinuance of the expansion of bureaus and opposed the relinquishing to the Federal Government of constitutional rights.

(7) Urged that Congress assert its constitutional rights and that the provisions of the Constitution of the U. S. be adhered to.

(8) Requested that the State Feed Committee intercede with the War Food Administration to have more cottonseed and soybean meal processed into pellets satisfactory for use on the sheep ranges in the state.

(9) Supported the administration of the Price Control Act and commended the local representatives for consideration given wool growers' problems.

(10) Requested that the red tape and difficulty in securing supplies for sheep camps be reduced to the minimum.

(11) Requested that the Office of Defense Transportation and the War Production Board establish the highest possible priority for sheepmen that they may produce and transport with a minimum of difficulty the food and fiber they are producing in the aid of the war effort.

(12) Recommended to the National Association that they employ a full-time, competent public relations man to further the interests of the sheep industry as to merchandising its products, and urged each state organization to appoint a state public relations man.

(13) Commended the agencies financing the livestock production and pledged themselves to safeguard and perpetuate all such institutions supplying credit to the livestock industry.

(14) Urged the Forest Service to hold rigidly to the principle of readiness of forage in the grazing of all livestock in the national forests; to enforce proper handling of all classes of livestock on forest land and insist on sufficient help to keep stock satisfactorily distributed and controlled.

(15) Requested that grazing boards of the various Taylor Grazing Districts determine the number of big game to be permitted in said district.

(16) Asked that district graziers be held for a longer period of time in the different districts rather than having them transferred as often as they have been in the past.

(17) Recommended grazing transfers be liberalized so that livestock operators may transfer permit rights more freely in the future than has been done in the past.

(18) Asked for the repeal of the Antiquities Act of 1906 and that the Jackson Hole Monument should be reinstated in the Teton National Forest.

(19) Believed all grazing lands within national parks and monuments that were not actually used for recreational purposes should be thrown open for grazing purposes.

(20) Favored strict game management rather than a promiscuous hit-and-miss game development.



Floyd W. Lee, President
of the New Mexico Association

(21) Urged that the bounty law be enforced, supported and given a chance to succeed.

(22) Recommended that the government stockpile of both domestic and foreign wool be placed under one division of government.

(23) Requested that the producers of wool be consulted before the liquidation of the stockpile.

(24) Urged the government to protect the grower in the marketing of the clips until the stockpiles are no longer a threat to the wool market.

(25) Urged that the cost of handling growers' clips should not be greater than in 1943, unless a substantial increase in the price of wool is obtained.

(26) Felt that the grading of lamb and mutton should be left to the packers.

(27) Suggested ceiling prices should be eliminated or increased sufficiently to include the cost of production and a reasonable profit to the producers of fat and feeder lambs.

(28) Recommended that livestock prices be comparable to feed prices and that consideration be given to recent advances in feed with no advance in meat ceiling prices.

(29) Asked that ration points be entirely removed on mutton, and if it is necessary to apply the ration system on lamb, that it be liberalized enough to conform to the seasonal supply and demand.

New Mexico

The 41st annual convention and the fifth annual wool show and school were held under ideal weather conditions in Albuquerque with over 400 wool growers and their wives present at the meetings.

Floyd Lee was re-elected president for his 15th term. Jess W. Corn and

James L. Hubbell were re-elected vice-presidents and Miss Isabel Benson was continued as secretary to the association.

The wool show was the finest the writer had ever had the privilege of seeing. The interest in the wool show was particularly in evidence and New Mexico was especially proud of the showing made by her fleeces at the National Western Stock Show in Denver where they placed 1st, 3rd, 4th, and 5th in the fine class out of a possible six places.

President Lee reviewed the practical problems of the industry. He felt that they had become no less serious than they were one year ago. He commended the producers of wool and meat for the manner in which they had met swiftly the changing conditions and uncertainties relative to the marketing and production problems. He said that the most important job before the wool men is the disposition of one billion pounds of wool stored in this country, a stockpile becoming increasingly larger. He stated, "We want that wool used." He also mentioned that navy uniforms are being made of foreign wool, but that the Army continued to give preference to domestic wools.

In speaking of taxation, President Lee pointed out that progress was being made in the effort to keep the assessment of livestock on the constant price basis, and that if the government raised assessments on an appreciation in value system, fully 60 per cent of the livestock men in New Mexico would go bankrupt.

Resolutions

Some of the resolutions adopted at the convention:

(1) Asked for restriction on imports of foreign wool wherever grades and types of domestic wool are available.

(2) Urged orderly liquidation of the government stockpile of wool.

(3) Favored the placing of all stockpile wools in the hands of one agency for proper liquidation.

(4) Asked for the continuation of the state land leasing policy.

(5) Demanded return of lands taken over by the War Department but not now in use to the agencies from which they were taken.

(6) Asked that ceilings on the products of the sheep industry be adjusted to compensate for increased costs of production.

(7) Commended the work of the National Livestock and Meat Board in its promotion of lamb in the armed forces.

The 1944 Platform and Program

As Adopted at the 79th Annual Convention,
Denver, Colorado, January 24-26, 1944

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

1. Free Enterprise

Thomas Jefferson once said, "Were we directed from Washington when to sow and when to reap, we should soon want bread." This prediction, which was made many years ago, is now an actuality. Private initiative, private capital, and free enterprise will return to the American people, the American way of life, and the fundamentals upon which this democracy was founded and upon which our form of government can survive. We seriously doubt the necessity of governmental agencies and bureaus administering the industrial and business affairs of our state and nation, and as a postwar program we recommend that the principles of "5th Freedom" be adhered to and that private industry be returned to the American people and a hands-off policy be adopted by our government.

2. Sheepmen's Organization

We would call the attention of our members, and of sheepmen generally, to the fact that this is the 79th Annual Convention of the National Wool Growers Association. This organization was formed in 1864 at the direct request of President Lincoln's cabinet, in order to formulate a tariff policy which would protect domestic wool growing and return revenue to the Treasury to meet the costs of the Civil War. From that time to the present, this organization has steadfastly represented the interests of all American wool growers. In all of that time, it has escaped the mantle of scandal and devoted its efforts to the high purposes for which it was formed. Those who have supported this association have the inherent satisfaction of knowing that they have contributed their share, not only to promoting the welfare of their chosen industry, but have contributed greatly to the welfare of the nation.

3. Limitation of Inheritance and Income Taxes

Under the Constitution of the United States as amended, there is no limit to the amount of income or inheritance tax that may be assessed on individuals and corporations. It is of course necessary during wartime that tax rates be high, and we do not complain on that score. However, it appears that a program for excessive spending following the war is now being formulated which, if carried out, will mean ever-increasing taxes. This will deny to our states adequate tax sources to enable them to maintain their independence, and will destroy the incentive of individuals who have capital to invest in plant extensions or new enterprises.

The legislatures of 14 states have petitioned the Congress to submit to the states a resolution limiting the power of the Federal Government to assess income or inheritance

taxes in excess of 25 per cent. We believe this is a sound proposal and urge our members to contact their legislators and seek the passage of a resolution limiting federal taxes to 25 per cent during times of peace. It will require the endorsement of but 18 more states to compel the Congress to submit such an amendment to the Constitution.

4. Federal Land Acquisitions

According to an official Senate document recently published, the Federal Government now owns 385 million acres of lands within the continental United States. This does not include Indian lands, which are tax exempt. The area of land now owned by the Federal Government represents one fifth of the total land in the United States, and additional lands are being acquired at a rapid pace. All of these lands are tax-free and, together with improvements, are valued at approximately six billion dollars. The removal of such a huge area of property from our tax rolls in many cases makes the tax on private property burdensome.

We call this matter to the attention of the Congress and urge that it place restrictions on the acquisition of additional lands by the Federal Government, and that it also formulate a definite policy for the relinquishment of much of the land already acquired.

5. F. R. Marshall

The members of the National Wool Growers Association take this means of expressing their deep regret in accepting the resignation of former Secretary F. R. Marshall. For 23 years he served us in an able and efficient manner, and during his tenure, contributed greatly to the betterment of our industry. In whatever field of endeavor he may engage in the future, he has the assurance of our best wishes for his prosperity and well-being.

6. The Tariff

It has long been the policy of our Federal Government to levy a tax on imports that would equalize the difference in the cost of production at home and abroad. In recent years, a well-planned and expensive program of propaganda has been conducted to discredit the honesty and necessity of a protective tariff. Under the subtle propaganda, many patriotic citizens have been deceived into the belief that our tariffs were excessively high and should be abrogated or greatly reduced.

We would call the attention of the American people to the fact that had it not been for the great industries, both agricultural and mechanical, which we have built because of our tariff protection, our nation never could have become the so-called "arsenal of democracy."

Without the contributions to our war effort of these tariff-protected industries, we shudder to think what would have been the fate of civilization in the present war. At the close of this war, our warehouses will be bursting with surplus products of many kinds; not only in this nation, but in many of the nations of the world, will this condition prevail. It will be the purpose of foreign nations to flood our markets with these surpluses.

Our costs of production are now many times higher than in any other country, and unless restrictions on imports are maintained, the greatest postwar problem which we will have to face will be what to do for the United States. We therefore call upon the Congress to maintain our protective tariff laws, and to take other action to prevent the outside world dumping its unneeded and moulding surpluses in this country.

7. Wool in Peace and Wartime

Again, in this, the greatest war known to all ages, wool has proved itself the peer of all fibers in protective clothing for our armed forces in the air, on the land, and on the seas. The scientific and medical corps of both the Army and the Navy have again verified this fact in far-reaching experiments and mass tests. Wool is a necessity to the health of our people in peacetime, and is as indispensable in war as guns and ammunition. We are proud of our part in furnishing to our military forces an adequate supply of domestic wool. We have the assurance of our leading military authorities that the American soldier is today the best-clothed of any soldier the world has ever seen.

8. The Railroads

We commend the management of the American railroads upon the able manner in which they have handled the business of the nation under the greatest pressure ever placed upon a private industry. This is in marked distinction to the confusion, delay, and inefficiency which marked railroad operation under government direction in the First World War. No other endorsement is needed for continued private operation and ownership of the American railroad system.

9. National Livestock Tax Committee

There has been established a committee known as the National Livestock Tax Committee, for the purpose of securing concentrated support of livestock producers to combat inequitable application of the federal revenue laws to livestock. The Executive Committee of the National Wool Growers Association endorsed and supported the work of this Tax Committee.

This National Livestock Tax Committee has made great efforts to secure the application of the constant-unit price method of valuing livestock for tax purposes. We therefore endorse the activities of this committee and offer our continued support on such matters affecting our industry.

10. American Wool Council

We are sure that the association speaks the sentiment of every wool grower in the land when we commend the

American Wool Council for the able and far-reaching efforts which it has made to extend the use of wool. We believe that their efforts already have been rewarded in a general sentiment among the American people favoring the use of unadulterated wool fabrics.

We assure them that we want their program continued on an ever-expanding basis. Their financial support is largely derived from the payment of 10 cents a bag on the wools produced by each grower. At this stage of their procedure, it is found that many growers have not heretofore contributed this modest amount. We take it that this is due to the fact that, up to this time, we have been unable to formulate plans for collection which were sufficiently definite and well-known to be understood by the growers. We are sure that this detail will be worked out, and that every grower who understands the work being done will be most happy to contribute the modest amount asked for such a tremendous work.

11. Our Officers

The one thing in which all wool growers are agreed is that we are under an unpayable debt to our distinguished president, Mr. Norman Winder, for the intelligent and statesmanlike manner in which he has presented our case on all occasions. His work has been performed at great personal sacrifice, but without delay or complaint. His heart and soul are wrapped up in the great industry which he honors, and this resolution is but a weak reminder of our deep appreciation for his fine services.

We likewise desire to compliment the chairman of our Legislative Committee, J. B. Wilson, for his tremendous efforts in our behalf, and for the unusual success that has attended those efforts. Wool growers, generally, understand that many of the accomplishments of the association during the year are due to his labors.

Our present Acting-Secretary, J. M. Jones, has been with us but a brief time, but in that period we have learned to admire the energy, intelligence and detail with which he conducts all his work.

12. Thanks

We understand that the Mountain States Lumber Dealers Association had arranged to hold their convention in Denver during the dates we have occupied the city. In order to accommodate the wool growers, they were kind enough to change the time of their convention. We hereby thank them for their liberality and extend them our best wishes for a highly successful convention. We especially desire to extend our thanks to the Denver Union Stockyards, Livestock Exchange, Denver Clearing House, and the Convention Bureau.

In closing our convention we assure the City of Denver and wool growers of Colorado who have made our meeting possible, that we have been royally entertained, that our wants have been anticipated and provided for. Our stay in the city has been pleasant, and we desire to thank all the good people of this city who have so liberally contributed to our comfort and well-being. We especially feel that Mr. L. W. Clough should be commended for the efforts he has made in perfecting the details of our reception.

The National Wool Grower

WOOL MARKETING

13. C. C. C. Purchase Program

In the spring of 1942, the Office of Price Administration placed ceiling prices on domestic wools under the authority of the Price Control Act. The ceilings fixed, in our judgment, were not in accord with the provisions of the Act as amended, and certainly these ceiling prices were no higher than those obtaining in the domestic wool market in 1938 and, in some instances, lower than domestic prices in 1937. Since that time, there has been no increase or change in the ceiling prices as first promulgated, and it was intended by the amendment to the Price Control Act that prices might be placed on a higher level.

Since these prices were fixed, the costs of wool production have increased at a rapid rate, and at the present moment, it is doubtful if many of our wool producers are meeting the actual cost of production. We anticipate a continued increase in costs which may, in the near future, mean that if the present ceiling is maintained, the wool-growing industry will operate its business at a considerable loss. In spite of this fact, it is our purpose to go along with the Federal Government's ceiling prices as long as we can continue to operate. It may, however, develop that our losses will be so great that it will be necessary to ask for a readjustment of these prices as is provided in the amended Price Control Act. Therefore, in accord with this plan, we ask that the Commodity Credit Corporation take over the domestic clip at ceiling prices for the duration of the war and for two years thereafter.

We think we fairly represent the sentiment of the wool-growing industry when we compliment the C. C. C. on the manner in which it has handled the domestic clip of 1943. It was inevitable that in the administration of such a large program, without precedent to follow, that mistakes and errors of policy or judgment should have been made. However, it is our thought that the officers of the C. C. C. have shown a great willingness to rectify these errors and have expressed a disposition to confer with growers as to the adjustment of any unfavorable situations which, from time to time, have arisen. We believe that this matter will be more readily handled if the National Wool Growers Association appoints a committee representing the wool-growing industry to confer with the C. C. C. and the Chief Appraiser to work out new regulations as may appear necessary, and to adjust the differences arising between the grower and those in charge of wool administration.

14. Durham Jones

To administer the wool program of 1943, the officers of the C. C. C. selected Durham Jones of Boston as Chief Appraiser. To him, fell much of the responsibility for mapping out the details involved in the appraisal, collection, and handling of these wools. We consider ourselves fortunate in that Mr. Jones was selected, and desire to compliment him on the fair, impartial and efficient manner in which the plan has been carried out. Whatever mistakes were made, Mr. Jones has shown a great willingness to correct.

15. Disposal of Stockpile Wools

Under the present setup, the accumulation of wools by our government is being handled by different departments. This inevitably leads to confusion and prevents the establishment of a sound program for the disposal of these wools. It is impractical that one agency of the government should be selling foreign wools, while another agency is concerned with the disposal of domestic wools. We therefore recommend that the so-called stockpile wools now owned by the Defense Supplies Corporation be definitely placed in the hands of the C. C. C., to be disposed of along with domestic wools in accordance with market requirements and under a program which will not unduly depress prices or disorganize markets. If it is not possible to arrange for this concentration of wool in the hands of the C. C. C. by conference with the heads of existing departments, it is then our recommendation that we seek the assistance of Congress in setting up a program under which this plan may be carried out.

16. Restriction of Wool Imports

We are also of the belief that some restriction or regulation of wool imports is essential if the present wool surpluses are to be disposed of, and it is our suggestion that wherever possible, import licenses for grades or types of wool available in our market shall not be issued for the importation of foreign wool.

17. Extension of Life of C. C. C.

Under existing statute, the life of the C. C. C. expires on February 17, 1944. We urgently recommend that the Congress lose no time in extending the life of the C. C. C. for the duration of the war and for such period thereafter as will permit normal marketing procedure to be carried on.

It is also our hope that the Congress will make liberal appropriations to the corporation in order that it may efficiently carry out its necessary program.

18. Shrinkage Program

We desire to highly compliment Dr. Herbert Wollner and the Treasury Department of the United States for the wisdom they have displayed in perfecting the core method of determining shrinkages of imported wools. We would ask them to continue with that program, and assure them that we appreciate their efforts.

We are greatly appreciative of the initiative shown by the United States Department of Agriculture and the officials of the C. C. C. in extending the core method of shrinkage testing in the appraisal of domestic wools. It is our hope that this method may be very extensively used in the appraisals of our 1944 clip.

19. Use of Wool by Army and Navy

We wish to take this opportunity to compliment the Quartermaster Department and General C. L. Corbin of the United States Army for the use of domestic wools in the manufacture of Army fabrics. We know that this cooperation has had a definite bearing upon the ability of domestic producers to increase wool production for our armed forces.

We ask consideration by the Secretary of the Navy for increased use of domestic wools, and request that whenever domestic wools are available, they be used in place of foreign wools in the manufacture of Navy fabric requirements.

LAMB MARKETING

20. Lamb and Mutton Rationing

The association is opposed to the rationing of lamb and mutton under ceiling and point values, for the reason that since their adoption prices to the consumers have risen. The program has failed utterly in its purpose. It has failed in proper distribution, it has forced the producer and feeder to operate at a loss and has drastically reduced, and will further reduce production and, finally, it is harmful to the war effort.

Ration point values are the same on all grades of lamb and mutton. Because of controlled demand in the form of ration points allocated to the consumers, the less desirable grades are without demand to place them in consumption during the periods of heavy supply. Price now seems to be a secondary factor. We recommend therefore that the ration-point values of lamb and mutton be adjusted in accordance with the price structure of the various grades.

We further recommend that whenever an excessive supply of lamb and mutton exists in any locality, this be deemed a critical area by the agencies in charge, and ration-points be removed until the situation is alleviated.

Price ceilings under the present system are far too intricate and far-reaching for practicable purposes.

21. Lamb Grading

We are not satisfied with the present system of grading lambs. We feel that the top grade is too narrow because consumer's ideas vary somewhat as to what is choice lamb. We think that the market could absorb more lambs at top ceiling prices.

22. Live Animal Ceiling

We are unalterably opposed to any ceiling on live animals as it would tend to diminish production and be unworkable. The cattle and hog growers have been subjected to ceilings on their live products and we urge that lambs and sheep be kept out of this situation.

23. Support Prices

Attention is called to the support price being paid to the packers. We are opposed to such a payment and the rollback of prices. We recommend that the association follow closely and study the support price plan as to its application and probable results.

We recommend that livestock prices be comparable to feed prices and others costs and that consideration be given to the recent advances in feed with no advance in meat ceiling prices.

24. Meat Management Program

We feel that the adoption and putting into operation of the wartime meat management plan as proposed by the Livestock and Meat Council dealing in meat would go far in ironing out our present meat problems. It is felt that these principles would encourage livestock production, would ade-

quately control livestock slaughter, and would keep demand in balance with supply, thereby satisfying the meat needs of our armed forces, our civilian population, and allow available surpluses of meat supplies for lend-lease uses. We are hopeful that operating under controlled economy will soon pass.

25. Lamb Advertising

Three years ago, the National Livestock and Meat Board, the agency through which wool growers are conducting lamb promotional work, began their demonstrations in army camps. The object of this program was twofold: First, to render a service to our armed forces in aiding in the education of many new cooks and mess sergeants in the handling of lamb; second, to promote the use of lamb by the Army. After three years of persistent work, the old prejudice against lamb seems to be disappearing.

Because of the rationing of meat there have been a great many substitutes highly advertised and talked about, and we have even had leading college professors and prominent educators infer that the American public should go on an "Asiatic Diet." Many other food commodities are grasping the present situation as an opportunity to use such words as "a good substitute for meat." It is the job of the livestock producers, joined by the meat industry as we are, to keep the American public sold on meat. When greater supplies are available, the demand will be sufficient to absorb our lamb and mutton without seriously impairing the growers' income. In such a program, we are sure that producers are vitally concerned.

In addition to this work, material through all advertising mediums—radio, national magazines, newspapers and demonstrations to housewives—continues to bring the merits of lamb to the attention of the consuming public. Although rationing has reduced the consumption of meat in American homes, keeping the consumer sold on lamb is the valuable and necessary work of meat producers.

For a number of years 75 cents per car has been deducted from lamb and mutton for advertising purposes at Denver, and the practice was started at Ogden last summer. We recommend the institution of this practice at all other central markets.

We wish to express our thanks to the National Livestock and Meat Board, the Colorado-Nebraska Lamb Feeders Association and every other agency which is helping to promote the use of lamb.

GRAZING

26. Big Game

It is a well-known fact the big game animals have increased on both private and public ranges and are now increasing in many places beyond the ability of the range to support them. Winter range ordinarily is the limiting factor for their continued production and increase, but damage to summer range, particularly by elk, is in many instances very serious. Competition between big game and domestic livestock for the use of range is growing and is an important economic problem.

We therefore recommend that (a) the government as the owner and manager of the land must determine the degree of use to be made of these lands by big game; (b) the

The National Wool Grower

State Fish and Game Commissions, under authority vested by law, must determine the method or methods by which excess game populations are to be removed; (c) that in all this effort the best scientific game management be used so that the management of game herds and the lands from which are to be permitted on the grazing areas under their economic and conservation principles; (d) that the livestock industry, the federal grazing agencies, sportsmen's organizations, other interested agencies, and the public at large, must encourage and support the State Fish and Game Commissions in their efforts to carry out these principles.

In view of the condition of ranges under the administration of the United States Grazing Service and the present big game population, we request that the Grazing Service submit a plain and frank statement of their position with regard to range management of big game and the numbers which are to be permitted on the grazing areas under its control.

27. Grazing Fees

We are opposed to increases in grazing fees for the use of lands under the administration of the Grazing Service, as neither conditions nor feed warrant such increases.

28. Non-Use of Range

We urge that the grazing agencies continue to allow liberal non-use of range because of the exigencies of the war such as labor, transportation and the meeting of marketing goals.

29. Grazing on National Parks

It is a recognized fact that there is a serious need of increasing the production of feed and fiber. We request that national parks, national monuments, recreation areas, etc., be opened for the grazing of livestock.

30. Parks or Specially Privileged Areas

We reiterate that we unalterably oppose the creation of any new national parks or monument areas, and that game preserves be subject to opening and closing, not by law, but by action of State Game Commissions, in accordance with local needs.

31. Establishment of National Monuments

We view with amazement and concern, the creation of the Teton National Monument by Executive proclamation under the provisions of Section 2 of the Act of June, 1906, "for the preservation of American antiquities," and particularly so in view of the entire record affecting the area involved.

From an analysis of the Act and the facts, we are of the opinion that a constrained construction has been placed upon the powers delegated to the President, and a subterfuge has been resorted to for the sole purpose of satisfying the ambitions of certain governmental departments.

We fully recognize the injustices in this particular instance and the interpretation of the powers delegated to our President, and because of this incident and the precedent established, the security and stability of range livestock operation have been impaired materially and we have no as-

surance that similar proclamations are not forthcoming involving other western areas.

Therefore, we strongly urge the passage of H. B. 2241 providing for the abolishment of Teton National Monument, and that our national Congress repeal said Section 2 of the Act of June, 1906, and restore to Congress the power to create national monuments.

32. Cooperation

Generally speaking, the relationship between the federal range management agencies and wool growers has been to their mutual benefit. We are appreciative of the spirit of cooperation manifested by the grazing agencies toward the solution of most of our problems.

33. Fire Warning

Due to the fact that during war times there is a grave danger of fires caused by sabotage on timbered and non-timbered areas, and that it is now apparent help will be difficult to obtain to fight such fires, we urge that employees of permittees be advised to use extreme care during the fire season.

34. Federal Ownership of Lands

We oppose any further acquisition of privately-owned land by governmental agencies. Such acquisitions will eventually undermine the tax structure of western states. We firmly believe that free and democratic government can only survive under a system of private ownership of property.

35. Coordination of Grazing Agencies

We commend the efforts of governmental range agencies in coordinating their policies and management practice and urge that they continue to make special effort to correlate their management and practice in all localities where such action would benefit the livestock and the range.

36. Range Improvement

Inasmuch as there is a vast amount of range improvement work to be done on national forest range to make it usable and desirable for grazing purposes, we urge that for the next ten years 50 per cent of the grazing receipts from national forests be allocated to range improvement including predatory animal control.

37. Forest Advisory Boards

We are pleased with the progress being made by the Forest Service in cooperative work with advisory boards and urge continued maintenance and development. We urge that local forest supervisors and permittees make full use of these boards, and that the Forest Service more generally approve their recommendations.

38. Range Review

It is recommended that individual permittees continue to make use of the privilege extended by the range management agencies for range inspection trips with officials and representatives of any other groups of mutual users of range areas and to endeavor to adjudicate, on the ground, any problems of range management or use that may arise.

39. Transfer Reduction

The policy of the Forest Service to regulate numbers and use, allotment by allotment, dependent upon range conditions, is one of the paramount factors that has induced proper range management on the part of operators and one that recognizes the necessity of the principles of established rights rather than a mere license to operate.

In furtherance of this policy and the stability of the livestock industry, we urge the adoption of a regulation on the part of the Forest Service eliminating reduction of numbers wherein transfers of grazing preferences are involved.

40. Proper Burning

We recognize that forest fires and insect infestation have resulted in the destruction of large areas of timber, and that much of it has fallen, making fire traps and creating additional hazard to surrounding areas of green timber, and also making it practically impossible to graze livestock in the old burns. We believe it desirable for the Forest Service to experiment in the burning out of these jungles in an effort to determine a practical way of removing these fire hazards and at the same time make these areas usable for livestock grazing through reseeding. Such work, we believe, should be conducted extensively as postwar projects.

41. Leases

We prefer the leasing of state lands "in place" by the United States Grazing Service where such lands are intermingled with federal lands now administered by the Grazing Service. Before the selection of state lands is approved, negotiations should be completed by the United States Grazing Service with the states for the administration of said lands by the Grazing Service.

Leases should be for a period of 10 years and the lease fees commensurate with the fees now charged by the United States Grazing Service.

Leases also should contain provision for an extension or renewal for an additional period or periods of time under terms and conditions existing in the original lease.

PREDATORY ANIMALS

42. Losses

The loss of livestock through predatory animals is of such serious proportion that every available means for predatory animal control and eradication should be perfected. The loss is not confined to the livestock industry but is a detriment to the war effort through the destruction and lack of production of food and fiber.

43. Fish and Wildlife Service

We commend the work of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and of the Department of Interior and recognize their effort as an important contribution to predatory animal control and eradication.

We urge that the Congress of the United States appropriate a sum of not less than one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) for the control of predators in the interest of the industry, communities, and the war effort.

44. Fish and Game Departments

We request the cooperation of the Fish and Game Departments of the various states in the eradication of predators.

We further request that a definite amount be made available from the collections of licenses in the interest of predatory control efforts.

45. Uniform Bounty Laws

In the interest of uniformity and in cooperation with all other efforts, we ask that each state appoint a representative and that the National Wool Growers Association appoint a representative to study, develop and recommend uniform bounty laws within the various states for the payment of bounties within said states.

46. Miscellaneous Efforts

All available agencies should be used in coyote control efforts and all means of coyote control should be used, including the use of poison, traps, coyote getters, etc.

47. Areas Covered

We request that the Indian Service, the National Park Service, game refuges, military areas and all other controlled areas encourage and permit the hunting, trapping, poisoning and the use of all other methods of controlling predators within their boundaries.

48. Funds

We urge that all and sundry methods of securing funds for use in predator control be inaugurated, including range management funds of United States Forest Service, and 50 per cent of the range fund of the advisory boards of the United States Grazing Service.

49. Benefits

If all available funds, methods and recommendations are made effective, it will result in an important contribution, not only to range conservation but to improvement in livestock management, which is necessary under present war conditions.

50. Cooperation

We request that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, State Agriculture Departments, State Fish and Game Commissions, Bounty Administrations and all other departments cooperate for eradication of predators, so that predators taken by each division will be credited to that division and the stealing of predatory animals from the various agencies involved will be eliminated.

We also request that each agency working for the eradication of predators discontinue the belittling of the efforts of the other, and particularly that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service refrain from active efforts in discouraging bounties or any other methods of predator control.

The predatory animal problem is one of importance and we urge that we continually keep in mind: "Get the predator."

51. Ammunition

At the outbreak of the war we all realized the necessity for ammunition plants to turn out only munitions that were to be used directly for the war effort. However, in recent months evidence accumulates that munitions plants are being closed down. Press reports state:

1. "The Army has as much as it possibly needs of many small arms and calibres of ammunition."
2. "Several months ago the Army curtailed manufacture of .50 calibre ammunition, a spokesman saying 'the U. S. has enough of it on hand for any emergency however unexpected'."

In addition Mr. Maury Maverick, Director, Government Division of the War Production Board, has continuously, for months led our Congressmen to believe that ammunition for predatory animal control is being supplied and more will be forthcoming shortly.

Livestock and poultry producers have been unable to obtain rifle and shotgun ammunition necessary to protect their flocks and herds which are producing essential products for the war effort from serious losses by predatory animals. In a number of cases stockmen have reported month after month no ammunition at all, with bear, coyotes and cougars virtually at will taking a daily toll of their livestock.

From the above mentioned facts it is evident that ample ammunition can be provided to farmers and stockmen. It is apparent the control of ammunition for predatory and agricultural pest control therefore has been inefficiently handled and muddled. Because we have been given the "run-around" by Washington agencies handling ammunition and repeated requests for action are unavailing, we therefore ask that W. P. B. take immediate action to provide adequate ammunition for predatory animal control.

We ask that copies of this resolution shall be sent to each member of Congress from the 13 western states.

LABOR

52. Selective Service

We ask continuance of the present Selective Service program whereby essential agricultural workers are exempted from military service. We believe the wording "irreplaceable" should be changed to "essential."

53. Utilization of Existing Labor

We ask the War Manpower Commission to bring about fullest utilization of existing labor; also that through Congressional action artificial restrictions and penalties on maximum output and non-essential employment of available manpower be eliminated.

54. Labor Sources

We point out to our member state organizations the following possible sources of additional labor.

- a. Navajo Indians
- b. Mexican Nationals
- c. Importation of Spanish Basques
- d. Use of War Prison Labor

55. H. R. 208

We ask immediate Congressional approval of H. R. 208 whereby funds are appropriated for the utilization of Mexican National Labor.

56. Agricultural Wage Control

We oppose a federal wage control program for farm workers.

MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT

57. Trucks and Repair Parts

A most serious situation faces the membership due to the alarming shortage of trucks, pickups and necessary repair parts.

Quotas of new trucks for civilian use have been promised and are far too small to meet our necessary requirements, due to the very high rate at which present trucks and pickups are now wearing out and becoming useless.

Repair parts are in most cases almost non-existent and every indication is that there is little if any relief in sight.

This problem takes its place as one of the most serious affecting our industry. Therefore, we most earnestly urge that our officers put forth every effort to get more heavy duty trucks and pickups allocated to us along with repair parts necessary to maintain present equipment.

58. Farm Machinery

The shortage of farm machinery and repair parts for the same has now reached a point that will seriously curtail our efforts in meeting food and fiber production goals, and in many instances threatens the very industry.

We, therefore, urge that every effort be made to get the War Food Administration and the War Production Board to realize the seriousness of the situation and to make available to us all machinery and repair parts needed, and when needed, to maintain our industry and meet production goals set by W. F. A.

The Committee on Platform and Program

Dr. S. W. McClure, Idaho, Chairman
James L. Sawyer, California
J. S. Hofmann, Colorado
T. H. Gooding, Idaho
Sylvan J. Pauly, Montana
Ralph Pitchforth, Nevada
Edward Sargent, New Mexico
Mac Hoke, Oregon
H. J. Devereaux, South Dakota
Marsh Lea, Texas
Don Clyde, Utah
T. J. Drumheller, Washington
Leroy Moore, Wyoming

Chairmen of Subcommittees

Wool Marketing: R. C. Rich, Idaho
Lamb Marketing: H. J. Devereaux, South Dakota
Grazing: Mac Hoke, Oregon
Predatory Animals: James A. Hooper, Utah
Machinery and Equipment: H. K. Fawcett, Texas
Ammunition: W. P. Wing, California
Labor: J. S. Hofmann, Colorado

Around the Range Country

The notes on weather conditions appearing under the names of the various states in *Around the Range Country* are furnished for this department by J. Cecil Alter of the U. S. Weather Bureau and based upon reports and publications for the month of January.

The Wool Grower welcomes and desires communications from interested readers in any part of the country for this department of the Wool Grower and also invites comment and opinions upon questions relating to the sheep industry and of importance and significance to wool growers.

Western Texas

The month was more favorable on livestock than previously this winter, as temperatures were somewhat milder as a rule, and there was some rain and snowfall on the ranges farther north, especially near the end of the month. Numerous herds of cattle are thin in the Panhandle section, but losses were relatively light (prior to the recent storm) owing to the lack of severe weather. Consequently livestock are rated in fair, or fairly good, condition in general over West Texas.

San Angelo, Tom Green County

Range conditions are very poor, and we have been having very cold weather. All of our ewes are being fed hay or grain. However, we have been able to get a fair supply of concentrates at \$60 to \$67.

Sheep flocks are in fair condition in this section.

John D. Robertson

Arizona

Temperatures were below normal, and most reporters rated the month a cold one, though there were no severe spells of extremely low temperatures. Precipitation was lighter than usual but was sufficient to keep at least the northern portion fairly well supplied with snow cover. The rest of the state was too dry and needed moisture more

or less badly. As a rule both livestock and ranges are in fair to good condition.

Glendale, Maricopa County

Our range is just fair at this time (January 28); we need more rain. We have had a cold spell, with the weather turning warmer with snow.

We are feeding about 3,000 ewes on hay or grain, which is about the same number as last year. But we cannot get sufficient concentrates. Corn is priced at \$2.90, cake at \$3.05, alfalfa hay in the stack is \$24.

The sheep in the pasture are doing good, but the range ewes are poor and feed is not plentiful.

We do not have enough herders and our losses from predators have increased over last year. They stack up at about 10 per cent for 1943. Ammunition is hard to get.

Feed costs are too great, and insufficient herders will probably increase the sales of sheep in this vicinity.

Tony Manterola

New Mexico

Comparatively cold weather prevailed, the cold persisting rather steadily through the month. Precipitation, mostly snow, came in sufficient quantity to keep much of the range supplied with moisture, but more rain and snow are needed for most ranges, crops and soils. The snow cover in many areas occupied by livestock, as well as the cold weather, caused a considerable amount of feeding; but feed was ample.

Colorado

Seasonable temperatures prevailed, with a cold week or two, and much of the rest of the time mild and pleasant. Snows occurred in sufficient quantity for maintaining a light to moderate snow cover, excepting over the northeastern portion. Winter grains and ranges were mostly fairly good, and as considerable areas were open to grazing, livestock were reported to be in rather good condition for this time of

the year. Good snow fell toward the last of the month.

Cedaredge, Delta County

I just run registered sheep and don't get out on the range much. However, I do know a number of range men, and they say that feed conditions have been good to date. December and January have been fairly open, with just enough snow to make grazing good.

Most bands are now in the cedars and sagebrush (February 4), and are being fed eastern corn, which is \$2.85 per hundred; also some cottonseed cake, but not much, as very little has come in, and most of that has been meal which has been hard for them to handle. A few cars of soybean pellets have arrived, which will help. Alfalfa hay seems to be somewhat short and is selling around \$20 a ton; soybean pellets cost \$66 a ton.

One band of sheep on Grand Mesa this summer had a terrific loss from coyotes and bears. We get very little help from the government trapper.

Ammunition? I guess there isn't any. I have only been able to buy one box of 12-gauge shotgun shells, and no 30.06 rifle shells in two years.

I lambed out 100 head of registered ewes in January, with perfect weather—somewhat cold, but clear. Since January 20, it has been stormy, with about 8 inches of snow in Cedaredge.

Frank A. Briggs

Utah

Unseasonably cold weather prevailed much of the month, more especially during the earlier weeks, though without extremes that would cause suffering. Snow covers, replenished by new falls of snow, were persistent through the month, providing ample moisture for livestock on winter grazing areas. Rather heavy snow fell near the end of the month. Owing to inadequate feed supplies for livestock in feeding lots, animals on the open range were largely in better condition in comparison, though the new snow is unfavorable. Coyotes were reported numerous, causing considerable losses among range

sheep. Many domestic animals were sold to reduce feed consumption.

Nevada

Temperatures were somewhat below normal rather steadily during the earlier weeks of the month, becoming milder toward the close. Snows occurred with sufficient frequency and amount to maintain a rather general snow cover and afford ample moisture for desert grazing. Some shrinkages were noted due to the cold and snow, but there were no undue losses. Livestock are largely in fair or average condition. Feed supplies are ample, though not abundant.

Fallon, Churchill County

Our feed is short, but unless we get some big storms, the sheep should do all right (January 29). We have had a good, mild winter, with just enough snow for the sheep. We have been able to get concentrates, priced at \$68.50 per ton, and alfalfa hay in the stack at \$20 a ton.

Sheep flocks are in fair condition and should winter all right as the season is getting late.

During 1943 we had about a 15 per cent loss from predators, which is greater than in 1942. We can get very little ammunition.

We also need more herders.

W. W. Whitaker

California

Much of the month was milder than usual and very favorable for growth of grasses and other forage and pasturage. Moisture was somewhat uneven, but as a rule ample where cattle and sheep are being pastured. Feed has therefore been fair to good, and the condition of livestock is also rated fair to good. Pasturage made especially good growth over the southern areas, where warmest weather prevailed, and where rains were adequate for present needs.

Live Oak, Sutter County

The range has not been too good, but this week's rain, (February 5), with the following warm weather, will greatly improve range conditions. January here was dry and cold, with little outside feed or grass. We feed everything,

and my guess is that about 97 per cent of the sheep are being fed this year. Last year the ranges supported the sheep with little help and little feeding after lambing.

We have been able to get split beans at \$15 to \$20 per ton, and alfalfa hay in the stack is \$25.

This has been a hard winter to date, but the sheep owners have done their darndest to hold the sheep in fair condition. We have enough herders, and so far have had no loss from predatory animals.

I have been unable to buy any ammunition, but have made several applications.

Ross A. Wilbur

Soledad, Monterey County

The range is in fair condition at this time (January 31). We have been having cold weather with a little rain.

The flocks are in good condition. We only have a small band and need no herders. We can get alfalfa hay in the stack at \$24, and the situation in regard to ammunition seems to be improving.

L. W. Wiley

Oregon

Seasonable weather prevailed, with some mild weeks, and one or two rather cold weeks. Rains were moderately heavy in western counties, while snows were ample over most of the eastern portion. Some light rains fell also over eastern counties, but the state remained snow-covered most of the time, east of the Coast range. Pasturage is available nearly everywhere, and livestock are doing well for this season of the year.

Diamond, Harney County

The range is very poor, with very little snow and very little feed on it. For the past three weeks it has been cold, zero to 10 above (January 29).

All of our ewes are being fed hay or grain. We have not been able to get enough concentrates, although we have been able to get some oats and barley at 2 cents. Alfalfa hay in the stack is \$10 a ton. The sheep are only in about 80 per cent condition and, owing to the scarcity of feed on the range and the long cold spell, are all on hay.

We do not have enough herders and our losses from predatory animals have increased, estimated at about 20 per

cent for 1943. I think we need a federal bounty on coyotes. We are unable to get any ammunition.

George Hamilton

Washington

Cold weather near the beginning of the month was followed by unseasonably mild weather the rest of the month. Precipitation was light to moderate, but heavy and frequent enough to maintain a light snow cover over most of the state. Top soils are too dry in places, and in others heavy local rains washed some soils. Conditions have been none too good for livestock in the open, over eastern counties; but livestock have done fairly well on feed everywhere, and in the west on pasture.

Quincy, Grant County

The range is in good condition. We haven't had any snow to speak about up to date (January 27), and the two to three inches we did have did not stay on the ground long enough to do any good. We haven't had any cold weather as yet, except for freezing nights. A year ago we had fed 60 days by this time, and we are just about to start now. We are getting sufficient concentrates at \$43.50 per ton. The price for alfalfa hay in the stack is \$20 a ton. Flocks are in very good condition.

We are still having high losses from predators. They run around 8 per cent. So far, I haven't been able to secure any of the ammunition that was supposed to be allocated.

C. R. Ramos

Seattle, King County

We are grazing part-time on the range. We have been having good winter weather (January 24). All of our ewes are being fed hay or grain, the same as they were a year ago. Alfalfa hay in the stack is \$30 a ton.

At present we have sufficient herders and the flocks are in good condition.

Our loss from predators has not been as great as it was a year ago.

Let's go back to the old American way, and open up the Forest Department for summer range.

J. W. Rumsey

Idaho

Temperatures were only moderately cold a part of the time, the general average being near normal for the month. Snows were only light to moderate, fairly generally over the state, maintaining a nearly continuous snow cover over most sections. However, the snow supply in the mountains and moisture in the soils are below normal. The weather was ideal for feeding and handling livestock, which have an adequate feed supply available. Livestock are in good condition. Some early sheltered lambing was reported.

Oakley, Cassia County

Range conditions are normal (January 26). This has been a good winter for stock, not much snow and moderate temperatures. About 75 per cent of our ewes are being fed on hay or grain, as they were last year. Most May lambers are still out. All sheep are in good condition.

We are able to get concentrates. Pellets are selling at \$3.60 and barley at \$2.00. Alfalfa hay in the stack is \$16.

We do not have enough herders and our losses from predatory animals are greater, due probably to the reduced number of jackrabbits. We have had less trouble, however, in getting ammunition.

We would like either all or none of the wool handled by the government.

Eugene Pickett

Montana

Mild, open winter weather has been the rule generally over the state, though with enough cold weather to keep feed consumption about normal. Snows were light, and the state was generally bare outside the mountains. Some of the warmest weather of record for January occurred locally east of the mountains. Rains and snows were so deficient the soils are very dry, some fields having become badly windblown. Ranges were still furnishing ample forage, and water has been adequate except locally; consequently livestock are mostly in good condition.

Brockway, McCone County

So far we have had a mild winter, warm with no snow. The range is good and no hay has been fed to sheep. Grain is being fed; some sheepmen prefer lo-

cally grown barley selling for about \$35 a ton, while others have purchased shipped-in corn selling for \$46 a ton. All stock is in good condition (January 24.)

Prairie hay is plentiful, but has no set price because it is not for sale.

Breeding bands here are about the same size as last year.

Our loss from coyotes is greater than last year. We have no government trapper here.

Wool sold last year from 40 to 48 cents per pound, but wool was light, so

WESTERN LIVESTOCK AND RANGE REPORT, FEBRUARY 1, 1944

The fair to good supply of range feed on western ranges was partially covered by late January snows. Mild open winter weather until the last week in January permitted full use of range feed, except in parts of the southern great plains and a few local areas, and helped to conserve hay and other feeds. Livestock are generally wintering in good condition with some shrinkage from January storms, but losses have been light, according to the February 1, 1944 Western Livestock and Range Report of the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Winter ranges and pastures were largely open for grazing until late in January, except in parts of southern Colorado, western Kansas, the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles, northeastern and north-central New Mexico, and parts of Wyoming and Utah. Late in January, snow covered the Dakotas, southeastern Montana, Wyoming, western Nebraska, western Kansas, Colorado, and Utah. This storm also added snow to the already covered ranges of north-central and northeastern New Mexico, the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles, parts of western Kansas, and south-central and southeastern Colorado. January storms gave much needed soil moisture to Texas, southern New Mexico, and Arizona, improving spring feed prospects. In Montana, the Dakotas, western Nebraska, and parts of Wyoming, mild open winter conditions until late January permitted full utilization of ranges and pastures, and conserved hay and feed supplies. Winter feeding has been fairly heavy in parts of Wyoming, south-central and southeastern Colorado, western Kansas, northeastern New Mexico, northern Texas, western Oklahoma, and parts of Utah, where there were earlier storms and snow. Winter ranges had a fair to good supply of feed except in parts of Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Arizona, where dry conditions last fall reduced the supply of range feed. Wheat and grain pastures have provided but little feed in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. In Idaho, Oregon, Washington and Nevada, winter ranges have a fair to good supply of feed that was largely open, which permitted light feeding of hay and other feeds, which now appear ample for average winter needs. California range and pasture feed was retarded by cold weather and lack of rain, with good warm rains late in January greatly changing future prospects. There has been a heavy strong demand for grains and protein supplements, with the quantity arriving far below the demand.

the return per fleece was less than the previous year.

Our cost of operations is increasing in regard to food, grain, and wages. Leases on our land remain the same.

Emmett Keyes

Ekalaka, Carter County

Range conditions are very good (February 4). We have lots of grass of good quality. The weather was very nice until about January 25, then we had about a foot of snow, but it isn't very cold.

All of our ewes are being fed hay. This is about the same as last year, except that we had severe cold last year also. I fed everything grain last winter, but it was too high to buy this. We could not get any concentrates at all this year.

Flocks are in good condition, but we do not have sufficient herders at present. Our loss from predators in 1942 was about two per cent; this year it is about 6 per cent. We are going to have to get a better coyote control system than we have if we stay in the sheep business. I have all my place fenced in sheep-tight pastures to save herders; now I have to hire men to herd coyotes out. I'm for airplanes one hundred per cent. We had planes here two years ago and they really thinned the coyotes out.

We have received no ammunition yet.
Ellis F. Burch

Pinielle, Carter County

The range is in good condition. The quality of feed and grass is better than a year ago. The weather has been ideal and the sheep are in fine shape.

We are expecting a larger percentage of lambs this spring on account of such a nice December. There has been hardly any snow so far (January 24), probably not enough in some localities for livestock.

I believe most people got all the concentrates they wanted. There hasn't been any alfalfa hay changing hands, but it would probably sell from \$10 to \$15.

A few sheepmen have had a hard time getting sufficient herders, especially dependable and experienced ones. The 1943 loss from coyotes was larger than in 1942; I'd say 5 per cent more. The ammunition problem is improving some as we are getting more than we did earlier.

We would like to know more about
(Continued on page 48)

The Auxiliary Convention

RANCHERS from thirteen wool-producing states and many of their wives were greeted by spring-like weather when they met in Denver, Colorado, for the annual convention of the National Wool Growers Association and its Women's Auxiliary, January 24, 25, 26.

Many of us who left snow-covered scenes and frigid temperatures at home were delighted, upon arriving for the convention, to find Denver enjoying very mild weather. Some of the citizenry insisted this had been ordered especially for the wool growers' benefit; nevertheless, it was a real treat.

Executive Meeting

Mrs. W. A. Roberts, National Auxiliary president, started events off at a delightful Sunday night dinner, at which she presided and at which the executive officers and state delegates were guests. The beautiful floral centerpiece for the supper was a gift of the ladies of the Colorado Auxiliary and was later presented to President Roberts.

An informative and interesting discussion was had at the executive meeting which followed the dinner. President Roberts explained a proposed educational program to be carried out during the coming year. It is planned to send monthly, a series of pamphlets and booklets covering all phases of education on the better care and use of wool and mohair, lamb, etc. The expense of the program is to be borne by the National Auxiliary. Each state has been assessed fifteen dollars as its share of this expense.

The present plan is for the National Secretary to mail enough copies to each state auxiliary for each member to receive one each month. It is felt this program will serve the dual purpose of educating our members to the fuller use and better care of wool, mohair, lamb and chevron, and at the same time bring the National Auxiliary in closer contact with the individual members.

As these bulletins begin to reach you, we would be pleased to have letters from you giving us your reaction to them.

Motions were made to make it obligatory upon each state to obtain a ram

or raise money in some other way for the National Treasury and for a budget committee to be appointed. Both of these motions carried and accordingly the President appointed the following persons to act on the Budget Committee: Mrs. R. I. Thompson, chairman; Mrs. Charles Coiner, Mrs. Dan H. Hughes, Mrs. Marsh Lea, Mrs. Clell Lung, and Mrs. Emory Smith. The Budget Committee later proposed the following budget for the coming year with the recommendation that the President use her judgment in expenditures in forming new auxiliaries:

Program	\$100.00
Office Expense	75.00
Nat'l Convention Expense	200.00
Executive Dinner	25.00
State Convention Visits	100.00
4-H Club Congress Awards	60.00
	<hr/>
	\$560.00

Hacienda Rustone

One of the highlights of the entire convention was the visit and luncheon at the beautiful country estate of the Russell Wilkins' at Broomfield, twelve miles out of Denver. Monday at noon saw car after car, loaded with visiting wives of wool growers, following the cleverly prepared map out to Broomfield and Hacienda Rustone, the Spanish-type ranch home named after the two Wilkins sons, "Rusty" and "Tony" or, Russell II and Anthony.

Here, we were at liberty to browse around and enjoy the unusual beauty of the house—each room a dream come true, and the unparalleled view of prairie and mountains, until the "Duchess" as Mrs. Wilkins is lovingly nicknamed, called the guests to luncheon. About seventy guests were seated at tables throughout the dining room, living room and den, and served by the "Duchess" and a corps of able assisting hostesses, and by "Russ" himself.

Round-table Discussion

For its 15th annual meeting, the auxiliary met in the Silver Spruce Room of the Shirley Savoy Hotel the afternoon of January 24. President Mrs. W. A. Roberts presided.

A speaker of unusual merit, the Very Reverend Paul B. Roberts, Pastor of the

St. John's Episcopal Church of Denver, was the guest speaker for the afternoon. He spoke of the changing values in the world of today, stating we should base our values on something unchanging, and stressed the important part women would have to take in bringing about an adjusted world of peace.

Following Reverend Roberts' inspirational talk, members gathered around the speaker's table for a discussion on the subject "To What Extent Should the Auxiliary Engage in Promotion Work During Wartime?" Mrs. Robert Naylor, past president of the National Auxiliary, acted as moderator for the discussion, Mr. Simpson of Swift & Company was present to discuss and answer questions on lamb markets and promotion, and Mr. Eugene Ackerman, executive director of the American Wool Council, discussed wool promotion and answered questions regarding it.

The President appointed the following two committees to act during the convention: Credentials Committee: Mrs. A. S. Boyd, chairman; Mrs. J. T. Baker, Mrs. Victor Lesamiz; Mrs. S. I. Greer, Mrs. Ellery E. Burford, and Mrs. Merle Drake, Resolutions Committee: Mrs. Horace Fawcett, chairman; Mrs. J. R. Eliason, and Mrs. L. S. Wyman.

A second business session of the Auxiliary was held at 9 o'clock on the Mezzanine Floor of the Shirley Savoy Hotel on January 25 for the purpose of hearing the reports from officers and from the various state auxiliaries. President's report was made by Mrs. W. A. Roberts; Mrs. Don Clyde, retiring Utah President, gave the Utah report, with Mrs. S. I. Greer summarizing the work of the Voluntary War Service for Utah. This report received considerable favorable comment for the manner in which it was prepared and also for the great amount done in all phases of war service work. Other state reports were given as follows: Colorado by Mrs. John B. Allies, president of the Colorado Auxiliary; Wyoming by Mrs. P. J. Quealy, president of the Wyoming Auxiliary; Idaho by Mrs. Charles Coiner, president of the Idaho Auxiliary; Oregon by Mrs. A. S. Boyd, president of the auxiliary of that state; Washington by Mrs. Victor Lesamiz, vice president of the Washington Aux-

iliary; and Texas by Mrs. Sayres Farmer, the state auxiliary president. Mrs. R. I. Thompson gave the report of the 4H Club Committee, as its chairman; Mrs. J. R. Eliason reported as historian, and Mrs. Horace Fawcett read her report from the Resolutions Committee.

Women's Uniforms Shown Auxiliary

Very impressive was the sight of over two hundred sheepmen's wives and their friends seated at long tables at a luncheon in the Empire Room of the Shirley Savoy Hotel. A beautiful red-white-and-blue floral piece marked the head table at which the national officers, toastmistress, and those in charge of arrangements were seated.

President Mrs. W. A. Roberts introduced those at this table, concluding with Mrs. Ruth Von derLippe, recruitment secretary for Army and Navy nurses in Colorado, and toastmistress, who introduced, with brief descriptions of their duties, twenty-three women representing various units of the armed service, the American Red Cross and American Women's Volunteer Services. Each of these women was dressed in the uniform of her particular branch of service. When all stood at once to receive the ovation of the crowd, the sight caused every one to be a little prouder of being an American.

Beautiful gardenia corsages were presented each lady at the head table, and every lady present also received a single gardenia as a favor. Organ and piano music was furnished during the luncheon by Mrs. Mary Tuttle.

The committee in charge of arrangements for the luncheon was: Mrs. Michael F. Hayes, chairman; Mrs. Clarence Brennan, Mrs. Forrest Bassford, Mrs. Emmett Dignan, Mrs. Mike Noonan and Mrs. L. M. Pexton. The following were cooperating hostesses: Mrs. Douglas W. Clifford, Mrs. W. H. Hilbert, Mrs. Stuart Hoffman, Mrs. Hinie Klecker, Mrs. J. A. Lamb, Mrs. Albert Linger, Mrs. Andrew K. Miller, Mrs. L. A. Newman, Mrs. J. P. Parle, Mrs. L. J. Reed, Mrs. W. E. Robinson, Mrs. V. J. Stark, Mrs. Norman Thomas, Mrs. J. Charles Wilkerson, Mrs. Russell Wilkins, and Mrs. Michael F. Hayes.

Blanket and Quilt Raffle

The Washington Auxiliary donated a beautiful plaid taffeta, wool-filled quilt, and an all-wool, white Pendleton blanket was given by Mrs. Ralph I. Thompson, immediate past president,

TREASURER'S REPORT

as of January 26, 1944

Amount deposited:
March 22, 1943\$258.32
April 19, 1943 (Dues from
Wyoming 25.00

Total deposits\$283.32

Withdrawals:

March 22, 1943—Mrs.
Emory Smith—Stamps2.00
March 22, 1943—Mrs. W.
A. Roberts—Stamps6.00
April 19, 1932—Republic
Publishing Co., paper,
envelopes25.76
January 11, 1944—Union
Pacific Rly.—2 tickets150.50

Total withdrawals184.26

Total deposits\$283.32

Total withdrawals184.26

Balance on hand\$99.06

War Bond—\$296.00 as of June 3,
1942

Balance carried forward\$99.06

Texas dues\$75.00
Oregon dues 39.25
Washington dues 25.00
Idaho dues 25.00
Colorado dues 25.00
Wyoming dues 25.00
Utah dues 25.00
Chances sold on
blanket and
quilt145.25 384.50

Total on hand

Jan. 26, 1944\$483.56
Mrs. Clell Lung,
Sec.-Treas. Pro tem

to the National Auxiliary to be raffled off during the convention to raise funds for the treasury. Mrs. Thompson stated she presented the blanket as a token of appreciation for all the lovely things which had been done for her during her term as National President and that she would like to continue doing this each year.

The quilt and blanket were on display in the lobby just off the convention rooms and chances sold like hot-cakes to the tune of \$145.25, at the conclusion of the sale. Mr. Bill Anderson of Colorado was the lucky winner of the quilt and H. B. Bomford, past president of

the Western South Dakota Sheep Growers Association, won the blanket.

Thank you, Mrs. Thompson, and thank you, Washington Auxiliary, for these gifts which enriched our treasury so much.

'N Men Folks, Too!

There was plenty of social life for the sheepmen's wives' husbands, too, what with the buffet supper one night and the dinner-dance and floor show a second night. During the buffet supper, Mike Hayes supervised the sale of War Bonds through the auctioning of a prize ram. Many came to the support of the Fourth War Loan Drive with bids of pledges for War Bonds.

The banquet tables were filled to capacity; the menu satisfying; the floor show entertaining; and the dancing divine. Thus sums up briefly the Tuesday evening entertainment that lasted into the wee hours of the morning. Those Colorado folk sure 'nuf know how to put on a Clam Bake. We'll go back there any time they ask us, huh?

In Memoriam

The death, January 16, 1944, of Mrs. Sylvester Broadbent closed a distinguished career. Born October 6, 1883, at Charleston, Utah, Mrs. Broadbent resided at 446 South 12th East, Salt Lake City, Utah, at the time of her death.

She was the mother of nine living children, yet she found time to take an active part in civic and church activities. She was an enthusiastic member of the wool growers' Auxiliary, having served as president of both the Salt Lake Chapter and the Utah Auxiliary. At the time of her death she was treasurer of the Salt Lake Council of Women.

Mrs. Broadbent was also an ardent church worker having spent seventeen years as president of the Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Association, fifteen years in the Primary Association, and three years as President of the Relief Society, all organizations of the Latter-day Saints Church.

Josephine Broadbent endeared herself to all who knew her for her steadfastness, her gentle and unassuming manner, and for her unswerving loyalty to duty and friends.

The Wool Growers' Auxiliary indeed lost a dear friend with the passing of this noble woman.

The National Wool Grower

The Lamb Markets

Chicago

A SUPPLY of 200,000 lambs reached

Chicago in January, which was the largest for the month since 1940, but prior to that time the smallest for more than half a century. Most of the receipts came from farms in the cornbelt area where the total number on feed was rated a little less than last year. The movement to twenty primary markets was around 60,000 less than in 1943. Prices were attractive most of the month which was an inducement to feed to a good finish. The percentage of cull and common lambs was lighter than in most other years and these came from sections where there was a shortage in feed. Shippers to Chicago reported the best feeding season in years. Weather was unusually favorable; the official report on temperature during the month showed 10 degrees above normal for the month with practically no snow.

A very substantial advance was scored during the month, top lambs reaching \$16.35, highest for the month since 1929. In the low year of 1932 \$8.35 was the top. All during the month there was a healthy demand with prices showing an upward trend for all lambs that had good meat quality. The moderate supply around the market circle in the face of a broader outlet for the armed forces had much to do with the improved condition of the trade.

The regulation of meat sales through the government point system favored the demand for mutton products, for consumers who were not able to get the customary quantity of beef and pork bought lamb more freely. Another reason was that lamb was relatively cheap compared with other meats.

The year opened with the best lambs selling at \$15 and the bulk of the good lambs at \$14.80. Prices were just a little under those paid a year earlier. By the middle of the month the top climbed to \$15.70 and most of the good lambs sold at \$15 to \$15.50. In another week top reached \$15.90 and this was raised to \$16.35 on January 26. A slight recession followed this bulge and the month closed with top at \$16, just \$1 higher than at the opening. A large percentage of the good lambs sold at \$15 to \$15.75 during the month, with the

common and medium kinds running largely at \$14 to \$15. The high price of wool was a factor in holding the market up to the highest level in 15 years. Government agencies report a gradual improvement in the demand for lamb in the Army ration.

The popularity of mutton products was emphasized by the fact that the slaughter during the month was the largest on record, 27 points showing over 1,500,000 head going through the abattoirs. The storage of mutton and lamb at the first of the year showed a much smaller surplus than either beef or pork.

Demand for matured sheep was also strong, and prices moved substantially higher along with the progress made in lambs. Late in the month a shipment of choice handyweight ewes from the wheatfields of Kansas brought \$8.35, highest sale for ewes since last May. Most ewes during the month sold at \$6.50 to \$7.50. The supply was comparatively small with relatively few that were well finished.

Yearlings were also scarce and in good demand all month, with prices advancing along with those for lambs. At the close of the month the best sold at \$14, with the majority during the month going at \$11.50 to \$13. There was a good call for wethers at \$9 to \$12.50 for the two-year-olds. Demand was strong and reliable for breeding ewes but only a few showed up that sold at \$11.25.

Feeder lambs were in strong demand all month but not many were available.

The best sold at \$13, but many were bought at \$12 to \$12.65 and some unattractive kinds at \$11 to \$12. Because of the high cost of feed and the scarcity of labor, farmers are showing a more conservative attitude about putting in new supplies. During the month some lambs were bought to shear at \$14 to \$15, with the intention of holding them for a better flesh weight.

Late in the month a few fed lambs from Colorado drifted in and sold at \$15.65 to \$15.85. Local traders do not look for many Colorado lambs until after the middle of February. The month closed with the average price of good lambs highest since last March with sentiment bullish regarding the future.

Frank E. Moore

Omaha

ALTHOUGH the January sheep and lamb receipts dropped slightly under the December totals, it was the largest January supply since 1932. Prices also hit an upward trend and showed advances of \$1 to as much as \$1.50 from the December close. Total receipts were close to the 200,000 figure compared with 170,356 counted in January, 1943.

Last month marked the beginning of the fed lamb season, and as a whole the quality was good due to the excellent feeding conditions throughout the feeding areas. It was just a steady advance in prices all month and by the end of the session the top on good and choice kinds had reached \$16.10, the highest

Prices and Slaughter This Year and Last

	1944	1943
Week Ended:	Jan. 29	Jan. 30
Slaughter at 27 Centers	327,882	310,606
Chicago Average Live Lamb Prices (Wooled)		
Good and Choice	\$ 16.02	15.87
Medium and Good	14.90	14.48
New York Average Western Dressed Lamb Prices		
Choice, 30-40 pounds	26.38	28.12
Good, 30-40 pounds	24.88	26.62
Commercial, all-weights	22.88	24.62

January price on fat lambs since 1929. Fair to good kinds changed hands from \$15.50 to \$15.75 at the close.

The outlook is for a continued liberal run of good quality fed lambs from the feeding areas in the next sixty days.

Supplies of native lambs began to dwindle last month and prices advanced as much as \$1.50 from the December close. The month's high time on natives was also at the close when better kinds sold from \$15.75 down. Only a few fat shorn lambs arrived all month and the highest figure reached by that class was \$15, with good and choice kinds quoted up to around \$15.50 at the close.

Feeder lambs were scarce all through the month of January and the supply was made up mostly of warmed-up cornfield lambs with a few scattered shipments direct from the range country. Prices on replacement supplies held well in line with the fat lamb market and advances as much as \$1 to \$1.50 were noted on the bulk of the supply. A fair demand was apparent all month although high feed and labor costs kept prices well under the January, 1943, figures when fat lamb prices were comparable. Bulk of the better kinds sold from \$12.50 to \$13.75 as the session closed and plainer range offerings cashed from \$11.50 to \$12.50. Several loads carrying only a small percentage of fats sold from \$14 to \$14.50.

A limited supply of fed ewes and a scattered offering of native truck-ins were factors in helping send prices as much as \$1 to \$1.25 higher during January. Best westerns reached \$8 toward the end of the session and the bulk of natives closed from \$6.75 to \$7.50 with a few sales up to \$7.75. At the close medium ewes cashed from \$6.50 to \$7 and canners brought all the way from \$5.25 to \$6.50.

Only a few fat yearlings were received all month and prices advanced 50 @ 75 cents. Toward the close, good and choice yearlings were quotable to around \$14. Trade in breeding ewes was limited and prices held about in line with the better quality slaughter ewes. A few sales were noted from \$7.50 to \$8.

Dave Lorenson

St. Joseph

SHEEP receipts for the month of January were 80,370, compared with 97,492 in December and 104,835 in January a year ago. Very few lambs from western feed lots arrived during

the month, bulk of offerings coming from nearby territory.

With continued light receipts at all markets, there was a strong undertone to the market and lamb prices show a gain of around \$1.50 for the month. On the extreme close best fed westerns sold at \$16.25, with others \$15.75 @ \$16.10. Best natives on the close sold at \$15.75, against \$14.25 a month ago. Clipped lambs with summer and fall pelts sold up to \$15.75 on late days. Yearlings sold up to \$13.50 about the middle of the month, but similar kinds were quoted around \$14 on the close. Fat ewes closed \$1.25 @ \$1.50 higher, with most fair to good kinds \$6.50 @ \$8, and common kinds down to \$5 on the close. Choice grades were scarce on late days, and quotations ranged up to \$8.25.

H. H. Madden

Denver

SHEEP receipts for January, 1944, totaled approximately 83,000 head compared to 56,000 last January, an increase of 27,000 head.

Expanded receipts and rather narrow shipping outlet depressed the local fat lamb trade late during the first week of the month. Most grades lost 15 cents to 25 cents, only common to medium offerings holding up. There was, however, a reliable call for feeders. Strictly good and choice 95-103 pound fed lambs stopped at \$14.90 late, these comparing with \$15.10 kinds early in the week. Ewes closed steady to a little lower. Good and choice loads made \$6.35 to \$6.50 to killers, and common and medium ranged from \$5 to \$6, with most culls around \$4.50. Feeding lambs were in fairly broad demand at steady prices each day. Several fleshy loads, averaging 72 to 82 pounds went at \$12.50 to \$12.75, while good and choice lots around 65 to 73 pounds made \$11.50 to \$12.00.

Higher prices developed during the second week due to a drop in receipts. Locally, slaughter lambs advanced mostly 15 to 25 cents with some truck-ins 50 cents up. Most of the crop went for local slaughter and therefore sold on a flat basis. Good and choice fed lambs sold at \$14.75 to \$15 flat, weighing from 80 to 100 pounds. Clips with mostly No. 1 pelts, brought \$13, some yearlings in the same shipment going at \$11.50. Woolled truck-ins sold up to \$14.50 freely. Ewes closed strong to 25 cents higher. One double of strict-

ly good and choice 136-pound weights touched \$6.90.

Killing classes advanced rather sharply during the third week. Lambs going for slaughter closed mostly 25 to 35 cents higher than the week before, while ewes advanced 25 to 50 cents with spots up more. Load lots of good and choice 99 to 104 pound fed lambs reached \$14.60 late. Earlier in the week the same price took choice 106 to 116 pound weights. Fed loads ranged from \$14.75 to \$15.60 on a flat, or memo basis, the inside price taking Oregons grading mostly good. Truck-ins reached \$14.90. Some clipped truck-ins with No. 1 pelts landed at \$13.50. Strictly good and choice 133 pound ewes touched \$7.50, medium, or medium to good loads at \$6.25. A spread of \$6 to \$7 took most truck-ins with a few up to \$7.25.

During the last week under review, receipts dropped sharply and the market took the opposite course, closing higher. Slaughter lambs advanced 25 to 40 cents, the late top going to \$16. This price was paid late for several good and choice woolled loads averaging 101 to 106 pounds. Closing levels were the highest of the season. Other good and choice fed woolled lambs sold largely at \$15.40 to \$15.85. The practical top on good and choice woolled truck-ins was \$15. Ewes closed higher to a top on strictly good and choice around 130 pound offerings at \$7.85.

Jacqueline O'Keefe

Kansas City

INFLUENCED primarily by rather sharp reductions in receipts of slaughter classes, the Kansas City lamb market has been booming during the past few weeks. As compared with the close of 1943, good and choice slaughter lambs are considered \$1.35 to \$1.75 higher at the close of January, 1944. Nominal quotations on the good and choice classes are given within the narrow range of \$15.75 to \$16.25. Medium and good kinds are a flat \$1.75 higher, at \$14.50 to \$15.50; while common grades are \$1.50 to \$1.75 higher, at \$12 to \$14.25. Slaughter ewes have shared the bulk of the advance, with good and choice grades considered \$1.25 to \$1.50 higher for the month, and common and medium kinds a flat \$1 higher. On the 31st of January, good and choice ewes are quoted at \$7.50 to \$8.25, and common and medium kinds at \$6 to \$7.25.

The bulk of the receipts have been

natives from nearby states, with a liberal sprinkling from the Southwest. Western Kansas wheat pastures and Colorado feed lots have also contributed to the total. The top of the market during the last week of January was set at \$16.25, paid for several cars of good and choice Colorado-fed lambs, and was the highest price paid at this market since March of 1943. It is the consensus of the trade that strictly choice kinds would have topped even that figure. Late sales of good and choice fed lots ranged largely from \$15.75 to \$16.15, while native lambs offered in the truck division reached as high as \$16.15, but the bulk stopped at \$16. Medium to good shipments brought \$14.50 to \$15.50, with only occasional bunches of common grade selling downward to \$12.

Supplies of good lambs have been limited, and the bulk of them were fall-shorn, or carried No. 1 pelts. A few good and choice shipments with No. 1 skins brought \$14.25 and medium to good lots with a similar pelt credit cashed at \$13 to \$13.75. Good and choice yearling wethers were also in limited supply and ranged from \$12.60 to \$13.75, with yearling ewes out at \$1 per hundredweight discount. Slaughter ewes topped for the week at \$8.25, with other good and choice rivals from \$7.50 to \$8.15. Common and medium lots brought \$6 to \$6.50.

Considerable, belated and much needed moisture in western Kansas brought a great deal of improvement to the wheat pastures of that section, and as a result feeding lambs have advanced during the latter part of the month fully as much as the slaughter lambs. Limited supplies cleared readily with a dependable demand for all weights. Late sales of good and choice shipments, averaging 70 pounds or slightly above, were fairly numerous at \$13.50 to \$14, with some less desirable kinds at \$12.90 to \$13 and light weights ranging from 50 to 57 pounds at \$10.50 to \$11.75.

Present receipts of slaughter classes are somewhat below killing requirements of Kansas City packers and this terminal could easily absorb larger numbers. If the extensive demand for replacement classes which developed last year continues this spring, and there is no reason to suppose that it will not, this market could use additional numbers of those kinds as well.

Bob Riley

The California Lamb Crop

The principal features of the early far western spring lamb crop are the generally backward grass season and the absence of early contracting, a report from the Market News Service stated on February 12.

The months of December and January were ideal for lambing, with considerable sunshine and no rain or mud or sharp cold weather. The size of the crop is expected to be smaller than last year's, although death losses have been unusually light, as growers have taken above-average care of the lambs dropped. Feeding of ewes was necessary, as green feed has been backward.

By the middle of February last year upwards of 350,000 lambs had been purchased. This year no known contracts have been drawn.

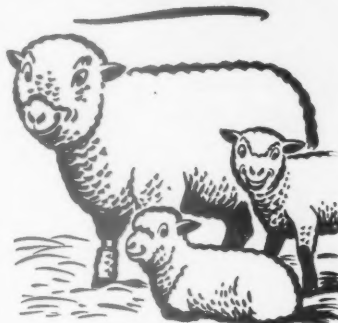
W.P.B. Textile Division Reorganized

ANNOUNCEMENT was made in January that the Textile, Clothing, and Leather Division of the War Production Board had been designated as a bureau. Early this month comes a statement of the proposed reorganization of the division. J. Spencer Love who succeeded Frank Walton as head of the division, it is understood, will head the new bureau. Kenneth W. Marriner, who has been chief of the Wool Section of the W.P.B. for some time, will now be in charge of the Wool, Cordage and Textile Machinery Division, and C. B. Rockwell is scheduled to succeed Mr. Marriner as head of the wool branch with Carroll D. Newell as his assistant.

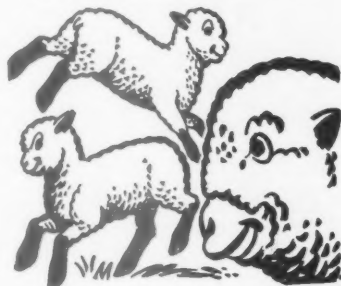
The Clothing, Knit Goods and Equipment Division will be under the direction of G. R. MacDonald, and in charge of the Leather and Shoe Division will be Harold Connett. George A. Lanier, Jr. will be in charge of the Cotton and Synthetic Textile Division.

Messrs. Rockwell and Newell are considered by the Washington representatives of the wool growers association to have a thorough and very fair comprehension of the producer's position under wartime regulations and, it is thought, will be very helpful in considering problems affecting all branches of the wool textile industry.

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The 79th Convention

(Continued from page 15)

I hope that within the next few weeks we can prepare and put into operation a program for 1944. I assume that it will be about the same as in 1943. I hope it will not be necessary to make any material change in the price levels. We are willing to take a chance and try to come out the best we can. Actually if we are to continue to buy it at a high price level and sell it at lower prices, we have a subsidy—call it what you may.

The appraisal of the wools purchased by the Commodity Credit Corporation was done under the supervision of Durham Jones, who is on leave of absence from the firm of Hallowell, Jones and Donald. "The object of my job," Mr. Jones told the convention, "is to see that so far as is humanly possible you men get a square deal, and on the other hand that the C.C.C. gets a square deal." Commending very wholeheartedly the work done by the appraisers over the country, Mr. Jones said that they had appraised 243 million pounds of the 1943 clip and at that time had 3 million more pounds to handle to complete the job.

"I can't pay high enough tribute to these men," Mr. Jones stated. "They have met difficult traveling conditions and they work under a great variation in temperatures. Their remuneration is much too small in my opinion."

"There were three types of complaints on the appraisal work," Mr. Jones said. "The first is, 'My neighbor contracted his wool for so much while I sold to the government under the same ceiling prices and got from 4 to 6 cents less.' The second general complaint is 'Why is it with the same ceiling prices in effect, that I made less this year on my wool than I did last year?' The third complaint comes from the fellow who divided his clip and sent one part to one place and the other to another place and got different returns."

In regard to the first complaint, Mr. Jones said there are no two lots of wool the same. Also many of the contracts made before the purchase plan went into effect were above ceiling prices and when those wools were sold to the manufacturers prices had to be adjusted and losses were sustained by the dealer.

His answer to the second complaint was that there was free trading in 1942 which allowed for some play in prices paid, while in 1943 the wool was sold on its merit and if there were any difference in shrinkage between the two

years there would be a variation in the price returns to the grower in the two years. He also said that costs of handling the clip under the government plan were slightly higher than in 1942. The fact that flocks are not always uniform in wool production accounted, in Mr. Jones' opinion, for a man receiving different returns on different parts of his wool clip.

"Labor conditions are tough," Mr. Jones said, "and I sincerely advise you to put your wool up as well as you can under existing conditions. Appraisers are bound to be somewhat prejudiced against poorly put up wools." He also told growers that an adjustment of prices under the ceilings had been proposed for the 1944 program which would lift the prices of some grades of wool and lower those on some of the inferior wools.

The manner in which the wool program had been handled by Mr. Myers of the C.C.C. was highly praised by Mr. George Anderson who represented the trade on the wool panel.

"I think a word should be said about the wool situation as it applies to the use of domestic wool in this country," Mr. Anderson said. "You must have been impressed by Mr. Marriner's statement that the great bulk of wool going into civilian consumption is foreign wool that can be brought into this country and sold at prices lower than those prevailing on domestic wool. This is one of the most important things you should have in mind. It is true that of the wool purchased under the C.C.C. plan a certain amount has been sold at ceiling prices. Of the 229 million pounds appraised approximately 58 million have been sold at ceiling prices up to the present time. I want to call to your attention, however, the fact that very little of the 58 million pounds has gone into civilian fabrics. The great bulk of it went into fabrics for military use, and the outlets are growing less so far as government orders are concerned."

Emphasis was also placed by Mr. Anderson on the fact that only about six to ten million pounds of the 58 million sold had been of the finer grades, and it is the finer grades of wool that are under such great competition from the Australian imports. In regard to the disposal of the stockpile wools, Mr. Anderson said it was difficult to determine the proper course of action. "It seems to me," he said, "the thing we need to do is to see to it that the do-

mestic stockpile is sold in preference to the foreign stockpile. The domestic wool grower is in a position today where he is being protected through the C.C.C. purchase program, but to all intents and purposes, he is losing the market for the use of his wool. It is unfortunate that with the mills running as fast as their labor facilities will permit, very little of their consumption is taking up domestic wool. We do not want to see the American public becoming used to fabrics made of foreign wool. Our whole effort should be placed on restoring the use of domestic wool."

Greetings were brought to the convention from Brigadier General C. L. Corbin of the Quartermaster's Department by C. J. Fawcett, general manager of the National Wool Marketing Corporation. "He requested me to convey to you assurance," Mr. Fawcett said, "that future government contracts would specify the use of domestic wool when the proper grades were available, and it seems to me that that is about as far as we can expect them to go." Mr. Fawcett also brought greetings to the convention from Senator John Thomas of Idaho, who expressed himself as being only too anxious to do what he could to carry out the wishes of the wool growers in regard to the wool program. Mr. Fawcett also commended highly the C.C.C. for its management of the 1943 wool program. He pointed out, however, that though the grower has the money for his 1943 wool, his interest in it did not cease there; that every grower wanted to see the wool used. Greater use of domestic wool by the Navy was cited by Mr. Fawcett as one means of moving some of the domestic wool into consumption, as the Navy is consuming more wool than at any previous time.

"The medium grades of our clip," Mr. Fawcett said, "will take care of themselves, for Army blanket orders will continue through the coming year. There is no quarterblood wool available in the United States to speak of today. There is some three-eighths wool. Our problem lies with the fine and half-blood wools which make up about 65 per cent of our clip. That is where we need help If all the orders for rehabilitation in Europe could be filled through the Quartermaster General's office, the domestic clip would soon be used up."

Of some encouragement was Mr. Fawcett's statement that there was

some hope that Australian wool prices would be raised slightly in July of this year. Regarding regulations of imports, Mr. Fawcett said, "I take it that the establishment of a stockpile in the interest of national defense was a matter in which every American citizen was greatly interested. Therefore, it does not seem just to me that the burden of the loss should be borne entirely by the wool growers I think that some sort of a program limiting importations should be put into effect."

Like a bright shaft of sunshine striking through stormy clouds was the report of progress in the absolute determination of wool shrinkages as given by Dr. Herbert Wollner of the U. S. Treasury Department and Alexander Johnston, now chief of the Wool Section of the Department of Agriculture, formerly with the University of Wyoming. With a moving picture Dr. Wollner showed wool growers just how imported wool is tested at the U.S. Treasury Laboratory in Boston to determine its clean value as the tariff is levied on the clean basis as the result of work by the National Wool Growers Association. The expense on the equipment used in the laboratory, Dr. Wollner reported, was paid for in four days of operation through the greater accuracy in determining shrinkage. The chief revolutionary factor in the shrinkage work is the core-boring machine for taking samples out of bales. In addition to the moving picture of the operation of this machine and other phases of laboratory work, the manner in which the core-boring device is used was demonstrated by Mr. Johnston. While it will of course be impossible to bring the readers the moving pictures presented to the convention, the story of this work will be given in some detail in a future issue of the Wool Grower and will include Mr. Johnston's report of the use of the core-boring machine in obtaining samples of Wyoming wool, and the results of the tests made in comparison with estimated shrinkages.

Also in an early issue of the Wool Grower will be an article by Dr. A. F. Vass of the University of Wyoming covering his study of production cost, which was one of the most interesting features of the wool growers' convention.

The future of wool was discussed by F. E. Ackerman, executive director of the American Wool Council, from two angles, the threats against wool and

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the opportunities of wool. Mr. Ackerman said in part:

Threats against wool from synthetic fibers are serious. Having conquered the silk market, rayon producers are now out to conquer the wool market. During the first eight months of 1943, rayon consumption amounted to 643 million pounds while wool consumption was around 652 million pounds,

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each amounting to about ten per cent of all fibers used. In 1944 I estimate that consumption will include around 800 million pounds of rayon fiber or 11½ per cent of all fibers used, and only 600 million pounds of wool or 9 per cent of the total fibers used.

In addition to rayon, new fibers—protein, nylon, velon—are also crowding the market for wool—all miracles of chemistry claiming to possess the absorbency, resiliency and other qualities of wool. Up to the present time, however, they haven't been able to substantiate their claims. . . .

There is a possibility that all manufacturers in the future will become converters of fibers. The fiber itself, so far as the rayon manufacturer is concerned, is not the important thing. What happens after you put it together is the big item. We claim that you must have something to start with—something worth while—in order to get something that is worth while. The protein fibers are still in a highly experimental stage, but for some of them, particularly aralac, very impressive educational campaigns have been put on.

I do not think wool ever stood higher in public estimation than it does today. The Army and Navy have proved that wool is the most perfect fiber for the protection of man against all kinds of climatic vicissitudes . . . The garment that gives the maximum of protection is the union suit. Survivors of torpedoed boats in the Atlantic were found to be those who wore wool underwear. Wool socks have also been found to be an absolute essential. The use of shearings for clothing aviators has been found too bulky so they are now using a garment consisting of a densely woven cotton shell lined with a fleecy fabric of wool and mohair which permits the body to hold its heat. Wool will be used in peacetimes as well as in war but we must not allow ourselves to be overwhelmed by the ruthless competition of the rayon people. The American Wool Council is the agency you set up to promote your product. You must give it your support . . . The most essential project to be undertaken is the education of the personnel of retail stores so that they will sell wool on its merits.

Lamb Marketing

Confined to one session of the convention, the afternoon of Tuesday the 25th, the lamb discussion was conducted with a dispatch and spirit probably never equalled at any other wool growers' meeting. Vice President Bacon of Idaho as chairman and Vice President Devereaux of South Dakota as discussion leader, handled the session in excellent fashion and the various government agencies and allied industries were most competently represented on the discussion panel. On it were Gilbert Gusler of the Meat Pricing Section and John J. Madigan of the Meat Rationing Section of the O.P.A.; P. O. Wilson of the National Livestock Marketing Association; P. C. Smith of Swift and Company; Walter Netsch of Armour and Company; and Rilea Doe, vice president of Safeway Stores.

The two things that the sheepmen

wanted to know in regard to the lamb marketing situation were, first, "Who is getting the subsidy provided under the price rollback order?" and, second, "Why hasn't the meat management plan as set up by the Livestock and Meat Council been put into operation?" While neither of these was answered to the entire satisfaction of the growers, out of the many explanations made they probably were able to reach a clearer understanding of the situation.

The Roll-back Subsidy

"The prices for both lamb and mutton at wholesale," said Mr. Gusler, "were rolled back \$2 per hundred pounds. We did not consider that it would be possible to obtain data from packers on the proportion of their slaughter by grades and therefore the amount of the subsidy on sheep was determined on the basis of an average dressing percentage

The subsidy is paid on the per hundred-weight of live animal. If the lamb or sheep dresses 50 per cent—that means 50 pounds of meat per 100 pounds of live animal—then the reduction of \$2.00 means a reduction of \$1.00 on the live animal. If the animal dresses 40 per cent the reduction amounts to 80 cents. On an average of the past twelve years the dressing percentage of lamb and sheep slaughtered under federal inspection has been a little bit above 47. At \$2 per hundred that would be 94 cents per 100 pounds of live animal, so the subsidy was placed at 95 cents.

Of course, there is a difference in the way it works on different grades. There is a little penalty on the choice lamb and a little back-up on the utility lamb which tends to narrow the spread between the top and low lambs to 25 cents per 100 pounds of live lamb.

The question of who gets the subsidy is one that might get us into a good deal of argument. It was intended as a means to reduce prices to the consumer. . . We estimate that the reduction to retailers has been about 2 cents per pound . . . In the final analysis I think it is the consumer who gets the subsidy . . .

The subsidy is paid to the packer because it was the simpler method to follow. Reconstruction Finance Corporation has no facilities through which it could handle payments to producers as the Department of Agriculture is in a position to do. In making the payments to the slaughterer there was one basic assumption. That was that competition between slaughterers for the available supply would, on the average, be strong enough to compel them to shift that subsidy back to the producer. Our economists will probably have to go to work to determine how it actually works out.

Presenting the packer's side of the subsidy question, Mr. Smith said:

I believe the producer is getting the subsidy on pork at the present time, but please understand I am not a pork man. The packer's procedure in arriving at his dressed cost of lamb is: He estimates what the run

of lambs is going to be today; what the lamb cost was yesterday; what the subsidy is; what the pelt worth is; and what his expenses are less by-products. After deducting the subsidy, the pelt value and returns from by-products from the cost of the live animal, we divide the result by the yield and arrive at our dressed cost, and put that up against our ceiling and the risk we take. The subsidy is such a large amount that the packer could never make it—95 cents a head—I do not believe that our industry has averaged anything like one fourth of that amount. The subsidy is definitely taken into consideration in figuring the cost.

Mr. P. O. Wilson was of the opinion that with light receipts the producer will get the subsidy. Whether or not the producer gets the full amount of the subsidy when runs are heavy is a matter of argument.

"Why should it be necessary to subsidize the American consumer?" Mr. Wilson asked in one of the strongest and most impressive statements on the livestock situation. "Why is it necessary for the livestock producers to force their way into meetings held by government agencies? Why can't the livestock producers take part in the discussion of prices in conferences with government agencies? Why is the making of prices reserved entirely for the rule makers

themselves? There isn't a man in this room or a grower any where who doesn't appreciate the evils of inflation. They know what it means on account of going through it after the last war. It seems queer to them, however, that it was impossible to get in the law that was finally passed any control of the wages of labor. A big part of the costs in producing lamb and wool is labor. About 75 or 80 per cent of the cost of production is labor. They expect to control inflation and yet leave that factor alone. I maintain that without any control on labor we haven't controlled inflation Many of the flocks have been cut on account of the cost of labor. The feed is another item. Your job is to produce all that you possibly can to keep factories and ranches working. We cannot do it with a control that centers on the man who produces and doesn't control his cost at the same time. The regrettable part is that the government has not listened to you."

To Mr. Wing's question as to why the meat management plan had never been launched, Mr. Wilson said: "I can only give you my personal opinion. You have a division in your program in

Washington. The O.P.A. has certain prerogatives they are responsible for, and the W.P.B. has others. They are not willing to give up their own control and put it in the hands of the War Meat Board I think we have played along with this thing until we have got into a "helluva" shape. It is now time to put it in the hands of someone who can right the thing."

Stirred by Mr. Wilson's statement, Mr. Smith, who is a co-chairman with Mr. Wilson of the Livestock and Meat Council, said:

We tried to sell a program and failed, and I guess we failed because the committee in charge, maybe it was Mr. Wilson and myself, did not do a good enough job. We did something, however, that has never been done before: Recognizing how difficult it would be to avoid inflation, a complete industry—growers, feeders and marketing agencies; the producers, packers and retailers—sat down and worked out a program and went to Washington and said: "We want to place ourselves entirely in your hands. You can set the prices . . . all we ask is that you take the benefit of our experience. We are convinced if you follow this advice you can hold prices at any level that will best serve the national interest." . . . We did not succeed, but fellows, we faced the problem.

There were many things, such as the

IS THERE COMPETITION FOR YOUR LIVESTOCK?

★ Perhaps the most highly competitive market in the world is that on which American livestock producers sell their cattle, sheep and hogs. The competition in buying of livestock is so keen that those who handle and process meat animals average to pay out of their raw material (livestock) about 75 per cent of their total income from the sale of meat and by-products, and their annual earnings on the meat and by-products which they sell represent only an infinitesimal part of a penny per pound of product.

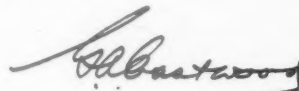
Nothing in the world, other than the keenest kind of competition in both the buying of livestock and the selling of the products, would

hold profits of the processors to such small figures (one-fifth of a cent a pound in 1941).

The competition is so keen that even old and well established firms are under constant pressure to obtain sufficient raw materials. The available supply of livestock is what determines the volume of the meat business and if a competitor is allowed to buy an ever-increasing portion of the market receipts that competitor will inevitably increase his volume of business at the expense of other competitors in the trade.

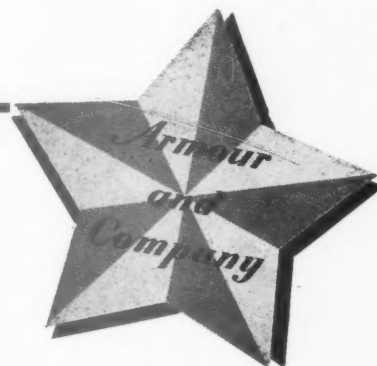
So it is constantly necessary for us to watch the operations of competitors and to match their efforts in

the matter of obtaining supplies that we may not lose ground and fall back in our business which we have been years in building up. It is this "watch and match the other fellow" situation which makes the packing business the most highly competitive in the world and holds the profits to such small figures.



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subsidy question, that would tend to separate the various branches of the industry, in Mr. Smith's opinion, but he hoped that the unity thus far achieved would not be destroyed.

Mr. Winder asked Mr. Netsch, a member of the War Meat Board, if the plan as outlined by the Livestock and Meat Council had been put into operation, a lot of the present difficulties would not have been eliminated.

"That is a very difficult question for me to answer," said Mr. Netsch. "Perhaps the functions of the War Meat Board have not been fully explained. It was set up by three agencies in Washington, the War Food Administration, the Army, and the O.P.A., to recommend to those agencies what they believe is the best policy to pursue The board so far has worked to get supply and demand into balance It hasn't the power to do the things you asked for Then, too, the board felt in the beginning that it would be unwise to throw overboard all price control and other management until we reached a point where the successful operation of the meat management plan was assured I believe we are coming nearer to that point."

When questioned on the possibility of having the meat plan put into operation, Mr. Madigan, also a member of the War Meat Board, declared that agency had done a great deal to coordinate supply and demand.

"I think the board has tried to put the meat management plan into effect," he said, "but we were opposed to taking off all price control until it was determined that coordination of supply and demand would handle the price control situation."

The reason why separate ration-point values had not been placed on mutton was given by Mr. Madigan as follows:

About the middle of summer, Mr. Netsch and others on the W. M. B. discussed this question. It was quite apparent that runs were increasing and that there were a lot of thin lambs being slaughtered that did not make good lamb. Our decision at that time was to reduce the point-value on both mutton and lamb, which we later did, lowering it from 5 to 4½ points While it looks logical to put a separate point-value on mutton and one on lamb, it is not very practical. There are 500,000 retail shops dealing in this product, and we want to keep the problem as simple as possible. If you have separate point values for mutton and lamb, a similar division would have to be made in beef. And we don't want to do it unless the situation gets so bad that it warrants a complete change in our program. . . .

We get reports twice a week as to what the supply of meat is on the market. There were some scattered reports of spoilage (during the heavy runs the past fall). Over

the country as a whole there hasn't been any considerable amount of spoilage.

The avoidance of greater complication of the point-value system was also cited by Mr. Madigan as the reason why different point-values on meat were not being contemplated for different sections of the country. If point-values were lowered in one section, members of Congress would undoubtedly ask for reductions in other sections, he pointed out.

Prices

M. A. Smith of Utah expressed the opinion that with increased costs of production, a sheep operator, even if getting top ceiling prices for his lambs and his wool in 1943, would not show a profit on his capital investment. "It violates our rights as citizens," Mr. Smith said, "to set prices that cause us to suffer these losses I would like to say that we, as producers, cannot take such losses while the government agencies are making these mistakes and, personally, I think we should have some supplemental payment in order to have earnings on our capital investment. If they do not want to let it come in a ceiling price, then let it come as a support price. Anyway, they should not punish us with a loss and make a lot of people want to sell out."

"Ceiling prices on live lambs are not being actively contemplated," Mr. Gusler said. "However, with the liquidation that has taken place, there may be greater pressure against wholesale ceilings and we may be pressed to put the live ceilings on if packers are squeezed."

"Is the producer considered in the program at all," asked Secretary Jones, "or is it just the squeeze on the packer that is considered?"

"I would say," said Mr. Gusler, "that the producer is considered. We certainly consider the producer so far as the legal requirements are concerned. One of these requirements is that we allow prices that take care of your increased costs since January 1, 1941. It is difficult for us to determine what this increase in cost has been. We have tried to study the question in the meat section, and I believe the research division of the O.P.A. has been considering it. I think the conclusion thus far has been that we are in the clear in meeting that requirement I would like to say to you as producers that the burden of proof is on you to show that ceilings are not reflecting increases in

production costs since 1941 I have no doubt that the returns that many of you received last fall failed to cover your costs of production. There was a period during which the price of live lamb was, in my judgment, not in line with the ceilings on lamb. To what extent you may complain to the O.P.A. on that situation is debatable, as there was extreme liquidation going on."

Seasonal Variation of Ceiling Prices

Consideration had been given to varying the ceilings by season, Mr. Gusler stated, but objection had been raised to making the adjustment through the rollback subsidy, which seemed the only way to handle it.

"I was against it," said Mr. Netsch, "as a member of the W.M.B., because it constitutes a threat to lambs raised in the western range states. The plan was to increase the subsidy during the spring and early summer and then reduce it for the rest of the year."

In the opinion of P. O. Wilson, it is going to be impossible for feeders to produce fat lambs at 15½ cents and come out even, with hay at \$22.50 a ton and corn at \$2.16 a bushel. His statement was corroborated by S. M. Jorgensen of Utah, who usually feeds a large number of lambs. "Any man understanding the situation," Mr. Jorgensen said, "knew that he would pay the double the cost of last year's feed and also increased labor charges. Feeders simply refused to run the risk, and as a result you had heavy runs of sheep and lambs last fall, including a lot of lambs that probably should have gone into the feed lots."

An interesting point was made in the discussion by Judge L. J. Wardlaw of Texas that the packer operated under a fixed margin of profit, whereas the producer never knew whether or not he would make any profit at all.

Rilea Doe pointed out that in all the present confusion and difficulties in the situation, lamb producers had had a big advantage in that the retail shops had never been out of lamb. The customer has always been able to get lamb, which has not been so with other meats. Also highly interesting was the brief report of activities of the National Livestock and Meat Board as made by R. C. Pollock, its general manager, particularly concerning the electric saw which makes it possible to cut up an entire lamb carcass into steaks and chops in a

few minutes. (A more detailed report of the Meat Board's lamb work will appear in a spring issue of the Wool Grower.)

The McCarran Forest Grazing Bill

At the final session of the convention, in addition to electing officers and adopting resolutions, wool growers listened to a very excellent analysis of the so-called McCarran forest grazing bill, by F. E. Mollin, secretary of the American National Livestock Association. It is customary for Congress to set the policy and the various governmental agencies to administer that policy, and the cattlemen, Mr. Mollin declared, feel that this should apply in the case of the Forest Service. The bill would not take away any of the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture, but would provide for consideration by the advisory boards of any proposed changes in the administration of the forest grazing lands. It would not be obligatory to set these boards up unless a majority of the users asked that such action be taken. Until they were set up, Mr. Mollin said, the present boards would continue to function.

Other items of interest brought out in the final session, through the assistance of M. S. Coursen, regional materials manager of the War Production Board, in Denver, and F. M. Austin of the Chicago Flexible Shaft Company were:

Labor, not materials, is the bottleneck in providing farm machinery requirements, but the schedule is to be carried out. Definite information must be furnished the War Production Board on repair parts needed in order to get action in that connection. Reasonable supplies of shearing machines, combs, cutters and repair parts will be available and distributed through dealers. The big problem in shearing is getting enough shearers, estimated to be from 20 to 25 per cent below the number available last year. The Chicago Flexible Shaft Company in Salt Lake City is attempting to act as a clearing house for shearers, and will be willing to assist sheepmen as much as possible in getting them lined up. Work on getting hand shears has been advanced some with manufacturers, J. B. Wilson said, and continued efforts will be carried on in Washington to have the necessary supply ready in time for the shearing season. There will be a sufficient sup-

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ply of bags and twine available to handle the 1944 clip, and the ammunition problem is clearing up a little.

Entertainment

Too high praise cannot be given the Colorado Wool Growers Association, the Denver Convention Bureau, marketing agencies and others for the very excellent manner in which they handled the convention and entertained the growers. The dinner-dance the evening of the 25th was tops in entertainment: good food, an excellent floor show, and pleasant dancing. A close second to it was the buffet supper on Monday evening when everyone relaxed and increased the 4th War Loan Drive by buying over and over again a lamb donated by the Trinchera Ranch of Ft. Garland, Colorado. The social affairs for the ladies were many and very enjoyable. They are covered in detail in the Auxiliary convention report.

Our special thanks go to L. W. Clough, who relieved Association officials of all the onerous details that go with the holding of a convention; J. S. Hofmann and A. L. Linger, president and secretary of the Colorado Wool Growers Association; Russell Wilkins of Merriam and Wilkins; Mike Hayes, who runs an individual sheep selling service at Denver; L. M. Pexton, general manager of the Denver Union Stock Yard Company; and "Ike" Walton, who took care of the hotel reservations, and, as manager of the Shirley Savoy, handled the luncheons and dinners with such dispatch.

So another convention has joined the record of the National Wool Growers Association, one generally conceded to be the best in its history. While the discussions did not give promise of any immediate change in present complicated governmental controls, we believe most of the sheepmen present agreed with Vice President Devereaux's philosophical statement to the convention:

Sheepmen are in between the two present trends of thought. We do not expect a Utopia, neither do we fear chaos. After the war we shall have the same people working at the same jobs, and while we may be poorer, I hope we shall be wiser. We shall need faith, determination and a lot of patience . . . We must stop running to the government, and provide the motive again to spur individual enterprise. We need not be afraid of the future, for the future is in our hands.

Farm Equipment

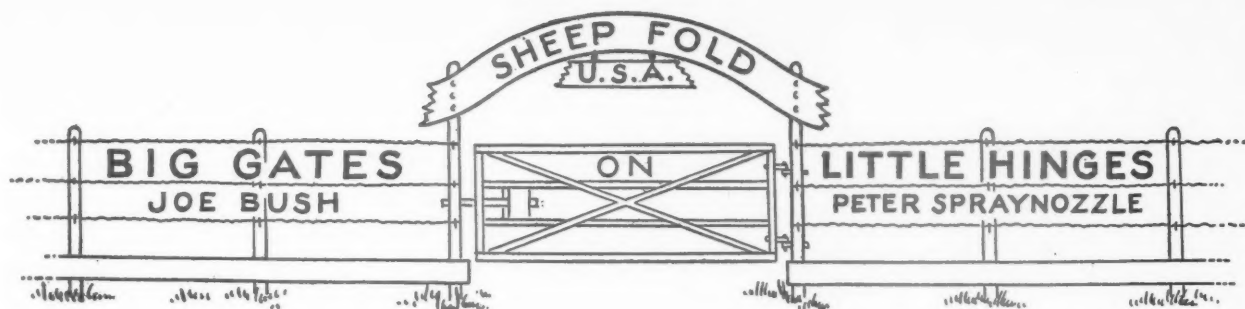
The Department of Agriculture has authorized production during the 12 months, July 1, 1943, to June 30, 1944, of new farm machinery of about 80 per cent of the 1940 base output. This authorized production for domestic use in 1944 is double that for 1943.

Production of equipment for soil preparation, planting, cultivation, and fertilizing is to be 163 per cent of that of 1943; harvesting and haying equipment and farm elevators, 81 per cent of 1943; that of wagons, farm trucks, pumps, and windmills, 130 per cent; that of dairy, poultry, barn and miscellaneous, 16 per cent over 1943; and of wheel type tractors, 76 per cent over 1943. It pointed out that it would be difficult to meet the wheel type equipment quota because of military demands. However, it is indicated that the supply of repair parts for these tractors is larger.

Repair parts are expected to be available in ample quantities and other farm equipment in most instances is being produced in quantities which are ample. For example, barbed wire and woven wire are being produced in quantities equal to the highest level of production prior to the war. Steel roofing will be available, but not in as large quantities as in 1943. Nails, bale ties, staples, and pipe will be ample according to the report. Rope made of sisal twine will be available. All balances of 100 per cent manila rope are under direct allocation to the armed services, and will not be available. Motor oils and grease should be ample to meet farm needs. Spark plug supplies will be somewhat restricted. Truck chains will be in a limited supply and good passenger car chains will be scarce.

There is no restriction on recapping of tires but the overall supply of rubber is small; hence all tires for the farm should be recapped according to the report. Press releases (February 15, 1944), indicate a shortage of rubber for recapping for the next two months.

Mixed fertilizers are expected to be available although potash will be about 10 per cent short of last year. Spray materials are in available supply. Government agencies are optimistic on supply of rotenone, but inventories are still very low.



JOE BUSH says: "Here we are in the second month of the year 1944, and we, that is, the people of the United States of America, have many important chores to do before we attend to our 1944 Christmas shopping, and wishing folks a Happy New Year again." We all have friends and wish them all a Happy New Year at the proper time and period of the year, but the wish is wasted, we know, on some of our neighbors who can not be happy unless they are miserable and making naturally happy folks miserable just talking about their own misery.

Generally speaking, the Utah Wool Growers' Convention is one of the bright spots among the larger conventions that meet in our town. This year it was larger than most years and seemed to have a lot more business to attend to. Jim Hooper, dashing from one committee meeting to another, was heard to hum a little tune that sounded like the chorus from "If I had the Wings of an Angel."

Also saw Walter James, the Shepherd King of Black Rock, Walden George of Kanosh, Sam Jorgenson of Salina, Del Adams of Layton, and ever so many more sheepmen trying to keep from bumping into the rafters of the O.P.A. ceiling, and learning the narrow boundaries of their grazing permits. No matter what comes out of Washington, the hazy vision of the crystal gazers, the shepherders who would herd all the flocks by remote control, the men of the range and the ranch have time, anyway they take it, to shake the hand of a friend and wish him well.

They are a great fraternity, the sheepmen of the West. They can and do meet conditions as they come, eat and sleep in homes that kings might envy or on the range with their flocks when it's zero and below, with storms sweeping over the winter range. They may not like it, but to save the life of a lamb born in a willow thicket they will travel that "twain mile" (Matthew 5-41) beyond the line of duty. Those who travel that "twain mile" never reckon the cost, or travel it seeking a reward.

Joe Bush and I, for more than ten years, were associated in our radio work with Harry Clark, and we think, Joe and I, that we have a fair idea of the words and music, and what music can mean. You who read this, as well as Joe and I, have heard Harry on the radio. But Joe and I have heard Harry in a studio of KSL, when his soul was singing and his fingers on the keyboard of the organ, bringing forth music, not the copyright version, but Harry's own interpretation. Joe and I have heard him play and sing "He Walks With Me, and He Talks With Me," until we thought we felt the presence of the Man of Galilee.

Then, too, Joe and I have been in sheep camps, on the summer range, beyond the timber line. We've been there when the ewes and the lambs were drifting to the bed grounds

for the night. We've heard the bleating of the lambs in a chorus, many hundreds of them, we have heard the call of the mother ewe, welding with the many notes that came up from God's great Cathedral of Trees, as the dust was merging with the night.

It's music that has never been written, but so soul satisfying that, if men who are permitted to hear it will step out of the shadow of their own prejudices, they can drift into sleep as the whippoorwill whistles and the woodpecker drums, when the stars stud the Heavens with their light, and the moon spreads a trail of glory, and the pines cast their shadows as the night life of the timbered hills commences.

Joe Bush and I have heard it and wondered. We have heard the murmuring music of the flock, as we lay on our bed rolls, far above and beyond the homes of men; heard it and marveled at the mother croon of the ewe, the murmur of lambs bedding down. We have heard our dogs answer the challenge of the timber wolf, the coyote, the wild cat, the mountain lion, the song of the night birds, and the buzz of the wings of the insect life of the night—just music, mountain music on the great ranges of the West.

Joe Bush and I have read of David, the Shepherd King of Israel. We have wondered when he wrote "The Lord Is My Shepherd, I Shall Not Want," was he thinking of any of the great in his kingdom? When he wrote, "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures," was he thinking of the kingly couch in the King's bedchamber. When he wrote, "Thou preparest a table before me," was he thinking of the cut glass, the gold and silver service on the King's banquet table? When he wrote "He restoreth my soul," was he thinking of the court physician? "Yea, though I walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death," were his thoughts with the officers and men in his Army? When King David wrote the Twenty-third Psalm, were his thoughts centered on the majesty of his court or on the hills of Judea, with the sheep he had tended as a boy?

Was King David listening to the music of the flute, the harp, or the cymbals in the hands of the master musicians of his court, or were his thoughts far away, hearing again the music of the ewes and the lambs bedding down at the close of day? Joe and I don't know the answer, but we have heard the music that King David heard centuries ago, and the herders of today hear it in the Rockies and in the Cascade Mountains of the West. And you can hear it, too, if you will listen, and your soul will hear a melody that never has been sung, hear it up yonder on the summer range, where mountains wear their crowns of glory, and stars are blazing in the sky.

Peter Spraynozzle
Sheepfold, Utah

(Continued from page 34)

Utah's coyote bounty law. We would like to see this law printed in the Wool Grower in detail—what the bounty is on old coyotes, and how much on pups, how they keep from paying bounty on outside-the-state coyotes. I believe that 75 per cent of the people in Carter County are in favor of a bounty law.

Earl Brownfield

Winnett, Petroleum County

The winter in this high plains section has been more like late fall. Precipitation has been almost entirely lacking since early November and stockwater is due to be a problem in some areas, although the federal range improvement program followed in past years has put an adequate water supply in many parts of this locality.

The policy of restricted grazing under the State Grazing Districts has put the ranges in the best possible condition of production. For hay and feed production, stored irrigation waters are sufficient for the season, but floodwater irrigation will depend on heavier precipitation, and present prospects are not good.

Without government support, either given by the withholding of foreign wools or by direct purchase of our wool by some government agency, we will be without an adequate market and be forced to operate at a loss. There is every indication that there'll be a shortage of help the coming season. Sheep flocks in this area are in good condition.

Jake W. Vogel

South Dakota

Mild, sunshiny, dry weather prevailed, being more like spring than January much of the time. None of the changes to cooler weather brought severe weather, and many days were as warm as late spring. Soil erosion was promoted by windy weather, owing to the lack of soil moisture and deficient rains and snows. Prairie fires burned some pasturage. Beneficial snow fell near the close of the month. Livestock are in good condition for the season.

Castle Rock, Butte County

The condition of the range at this time is good (February 2). The grass has more strength in it this year than last, although it is not so rank or plenti-

ful. The water proposition has not been so good, as we have had no snow to speak of until recently. There is a foot of snow on the level now, or I should say there would have been if it had stayed put, but we had a high wind. It was not a bad blizzard, as the temperature was only a few degrees below freezing. Until this storm of January 25, the weather had been extremely good, with higher temperatures and drier weather than normal.

We are feeding all ewes, both hay and grain at present. A year ago we fed both through the month of January, then grain alone. I don't know what price concentrates are, as they seem to be scarce as hen's teeth in this country.

Predatory losses this year have been very low. Part of the credit is due to our local coyote association. We have been able to secure 22's and buckshot-loaded shotgun shells through the coyote association. All members and help are entitled to them. We are unable to get 30-30's as yet. It is almost impossible to buy shells from stores.

Henry Jacobsen, Jr.

Maurine, Meade County

The range is in good condition and we have been having wonderful weather (January 25). All of the ewes are getting grain, but we haven't quite so many to feed as last year. We have been paying \$1.25 per bushel for concentrates.

Sheep flocks in this section are in good condition.

We do not have sufficient herders, and our losses from predatory animals have risen to 10 per cent. The am-

munition situation has improved very little. There is too much red tape before we are able to obtain it.

Aged sheep are 50 per cent better than one year ago and we have prospects for a good lamb crop.

Martin A. Haines

Wyoming

This was a comparatively mild and pleasant month, with no severe temperatures that caused any suffering or losses among livestock. Snows were mostly lighter than usual, but were sufficient to maintain a light to moderate snow cover over most of the state. New snow fell in the east and south near the month end. Livestock were as a rule in fair to good condition, considering the time of year. Feeding has been steady, but not heavy at any time nor in any section, until the recent snow.

Lander, Fremont County

We have been having snow and cold weather, and the range is below normal. (January 27). We have more snow and less feed than a year ago. We have had no trouble getting concentrates, priced at \$60 per ton, and the sheep have been fed cubes and corn on the range. Alfalfa hay in the stack is \$15 per ton.

We have a sufficient number of herders and our flocks are in fair condition.

Our loss from predatory animals remains about the same, which is 3½ per cent per annum. The ammunition situation seems to be improving.

B. F. Cochrane

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In Father's Footsteps

Across the yard to help feed squealing pigs. Small footprints swallowed up by big ones. Pocket-size farmer, he picks up golden ears of corn while Dad feeds fattening steers; he tries to carry milk pails almost as big as himself while Dad milks cows. Across the years small footprints gradually fill big ones. An American farmer's son grows up "with livestock in his blood."

Lucky for America that there are many such men with sons who follow in their footsteps. Lucky for America at war that farmers in 1943 made sensational new records in producing livestock and other food. Meat, for example, is fighting food in the diet of our fighting men. Meat gives needed proteins and vitamins to war workers on the home front. And meat will be needed by the armies of workers who will reshape and rebuild this war battered world.

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